

Perley Parish
Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 16
July 25, 2021

Prelude Song: Bringing in the Sheaves
Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;
Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain:

Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves,

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. **Refrain**

Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. **Refrain**

Gathering Hymn: Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain:

Every time I feel the spirit
Moving in my heart I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit
Moving in my heart I will pray

Upon the mountain, my Lord spoke
Out of His mouth came fire and smoke
Looked all around me looked so fine
I asked the Lord "Could it be mine?" **Refrain**

Oh I have sorrows, I have woe
And I have heartache here below
But while God leads me I'll not fear
For I am sheltered by His care. **Refrain**

Welcome and Announcements

- Welcome Hoganson family – what a wonderful gift to have all of you with us
- Brunch following the service
- Where's Michele
- All School Reunion – hope that of you that have been involved have been enjoying it
- Next Sunday – 9am at Nora

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
Amen.

God, our provider,

Help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, +the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all you children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Psalm 145:10-18 (read responsively)

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. **The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.** You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing. **The LORD is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.** The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Holy Gospel according to John 6:1-21 **Glory to you O Lord**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied,

he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going. The Gospel of our Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ**

Message

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

This is not a story we haven't heard before. Miracles are something that we find all throughout the Gospels and the story of feeding thousands not only shows up in all four of our Gospels but in two of them, the story is recorded two times! All of the miracles that Jesus did were important of course, but clearly this one is significant enough to be written over and over.

The record of this miracle is pretty similar in its telling in Matthew, Mark and Luke in that the disciples come to Jesus with a huge dilemma. We have lots and lots of people here, hungry people, Jesus, and we have nothing to feed them. That would be concerning! John's account however is a bit different. In John however, the disciples don't ask Jesus "what should we do" but rather John says JESUS turns to Philip for answers? "What will we do?" he asks Philip.

We've been reading each week how the crowds have been building and building across the area of Galilee. Jesus is speaking of hope and healing and people are taking notice. They are beginning to believe and understand the power Jesus has and want to be near him. Today's story tells us that the crowd has grown massive, 5,000 men AND women and children (those are not counted in the 5,000 so no one really knows how many) who are following – up a mountain much less – to see what's he's going to do next. In the Gospel of John we are told that Jesus looks about the mountainside at the mass of people gathered and clearly has a plan for what needs to be done. He doesn't however share his plan with them but rather looks to Philip and says "where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" Basically, "they are hungry. So what are we going to do about it?" Jesus is the one asking his disciple, his disciples, all of his disciples – including us – what are we going to do about those who need?

What's Philip's answer – well he goes into Ninja accountant mode and starts tallying and calculating just how much it's going to cost to get the job done. His reply, "Half a year's paycheck won't do the trick" – our budget just isn't going to be enough! We don't have what we need to feed all of these people! Thankfully Jesus KNOWS that logical and conventional means aren't going to take care of the need this day. He knows he can do what is needed to care for those who are with him.

But first Andrew needs to step in, he looks around at what options are available and finds "a kid with five barley loaves and a couple of fish". Now let me first point out that John specifically says BARLEY loaves – not five loaves. The significance of barley is that barley is all that poor folks had to make bread with so these loaves would've been made by a family that didn't have any extras. And yes, this 5 loaves and 2 fish would've been a meal fit for ONE child. That is all that they've got to work with and truthfully, who's going to take it away from the boy when it's not really even going to help the problem? It's becoming very clearly that there really is nothing that can be done by those gathered EXCEPT for Jesus – it's going to take HIM to be the One who can end the hunger – the need. John's clear in his recording that Jesus is the host of this meal, he is the one who not only performs the

miracle in taking 5 loaves and 2 fish to feed 5,000 plus that have gathered but also serves everyone that is there. Matthew, Mark and Luke's accounts have the disciples distributing the meal but not in John. John's account takes place near the time of Passover and clearly it's all about Jesus feeding, caring, and providing for those who follow and are in need.

"When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." He's quite literal in what he says at this point as the word lost in Greek means to perish. I believe there is a correlation in the thought that Jesus wants to keep people from getting lost, from perishing and to provide nourishment that lasts and keeps us alive – truly alive. So all that's left is gathered up and it fills 12 baskets we are told. 12 baskets that can leave us with a visual that He didn't just provide for that one time – everyone gets a portion so we know we have enough to feed everyone - but rather that Jesus brings true abundance, and none of us are going to perish or get lost if we trust in Him.

Where John places this story – near the time of Passover and how he records the account with Jesus being the one providing and serving really seems intentional in that it gives us the perception that Jesus himself is really the food – the one who will fill us. In the coming weeks our Gospels we are going to hear that Jesus is the bread of life – the one who will fill us and keep us going – and that if we come to him we will never be hungry. Jesus is telling us that HE is the real nourishment we need – the most important of all food – and that we can't live on perishables but rather that we need to make Jesus our go to when we are hungry, when we are in need, when we need to be filled.

So what is it that you are hungry for? What is it that you need in your life to be filled? God really cares about what our answers are when we think about these questions. He cares about our hunger – cares about us being well and filled – and he is calling us to Jesus' table, a table of life. I have no doubt that each of us will have a moment in the next day or two where we will be hungry – either literally or figuratively – where the food alone is not going to fill us. We may FIND ways to feel filled – some may buy "stuff", others may eat unwisely, some may turn to vices or substances such as alcohol or drugs to take the place of the emptiness they are experiencing. We feel the voids and want them filled. But God is always looking for that – the places where we have filled ourselves with the wrong things and almost sees it as a challenge. "These are things I can work with." He did of course send Jesus to be broken and given for us remember. Jesus went to the cross for us out of love for us and he's the one saying "What are you going to do?" how are you going to feed yourself if you try do it alone? Look to me for nourishment. Let me feed you as I AM the one who will truly satisfy your hungry hearts. I am the one who will give to you a life that really matters. I am more than enough and I have an abundance to give to you as I give you my very life. So come and feast on HIS banquet of life – everlasting life. Amen

Hymn of the Day: In the Sweet By and By

There's a land that is fairer than day
And by faith we can see it afar
For the father waits over the way
To prepare us a dwelling place there

Refrain:

In the sweet by and by
We shall meet on the beautiful shore
In the sweet by and by
We shall meet on that beautiful shore

We shall sing on that beautiful shore
The mel-o-di-ous songs of the blest
And our spirits shall sorrow no more
Not a sigh for the blessing of rest

Refrain

To our bountiful Father above
We will offer the tribute of praise
For the glorious gift of his love
And the blessings that hallow our days **Refrain**

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian/catholic Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

Celebration of Sherman

As we celebrate our time with Sherman may we remember that nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. And in faith we look to that day when death will be no more, mourning and crying and pain will be no more. But for now we gather together to worship, to pray and remember the resurrection promise and to remember the life and witness of our brother in Christ, Sherman.

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever. **Amen!**

Obituary

Sherman E. Hoganson, 102 of Fargo and formerly of Perley, MN, died, Feb. 8, 2021. He was born Nov. 5, 1918 in Perley, oldest son of Herman and Ingeborg (Myhra) Hoganson. He attended school in Perley through tenth grade, graduated from Moorhead HS and from the Univ. of ND, Grand Forks.

Sherman served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1945 and was stationed in Europe. He had a long and successful career with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). He retired in 1979 and returned to Fargo/Moorhead in 1991. In 2012, he moved to Riverview Place in Fargo and later to Rosewood on Broadway in Fargo.

Sherman is survived by his sister Lillian Richardson and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Selma Baardson, Olive Anderson-Kester, and Mabel Anderson; and brother, Howard Hoganson. A special thanks to Shelda Warren of Moorhead for her years of friendly, timely, caring support. Burial took place in Perley.

Pastor Reflection

Eulogy – Carolyn Nelson

Commendation:

Let us commend Sherman to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.
Intro your hands, O merciful Savior,
We commend your servant Sherman.
Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you,
A sheep of your own fold
A lamb of your own flock
A sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive him into the arms of your mercy
Into the blessed rest of everlasting peace
And into the glorious company of the saints.
Amen

Prayer

Heavenly Father: **we thank you because You are the giver of life. Today we celebrate the life and the spirit of Sherman. While we may mourn his death we rejoice in knowing that our place is in also in heaven, where Sherman and all the saints who have gone before us will sit beside you. We bless you and remember Sherman and the gift of life he was to us. We will continue to remember and reflect upon him and rejoice in knowing that he is rejoicing with you. Amen.**

Song: When the Saints Go Marching In

Oh when the saints go marching in
When the saints go marching in
Oh lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

And when the sun begins to shine
And when the sun begins to shine
Oh lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Oh when the trumpet sounds the call
Oh when the trumpet sounds the call
Oh lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Oh when the saints go marching in
When the saints go marching in
Oh lord I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in

Prayers of the people: (Hear us O God, **your mercy is great**)

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world and all of creation.

We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations, we especially lift up the non-denominational service being held later this morning for the all school reunion goers. Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global

neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

We pray for creation. Send us rain Lord for all of us experiencing this drought and come to the aid of those enduring this sweltering heat. Nurture the crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve habitats and the wildlife populations. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of common good and a commitment to ensure that all who are hungry and thirsty be fed. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing. Today we especially lift up Marlis and Kirk, Sonya and Roger, Terry and Jeff, Evonne and Byron, Whitney and Jaime and all of those that we now name silently in our own hearts.....Surround them with your unwavering presence. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

We pray for this Parish and the Kirkebo and Nora congregations. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance. We give thanks for those that have passed. As you sustained them through all their days, so dwell in our hearts, that we may have the power to comprehend, with Sherman and all of the saints, the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. Amen

Meal

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Words of Institution and Lord's Prayer

Our father who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion and Offering

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Communion Song: I Need Thee Every Hour

I need Thee every hour most gracious Lord

No tender voice like Thine can peace afford

I need Thee, O I need Thee, every hour I need Thee

O bless me now, my Savior I come to Thee

I need Thee every hour stay Thou near by

Temptations lose their power when Thou art nigh

I need Thee, O I need Thee, every hour I need Thee

O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee

I need Thee ev'ry hour, in joy and pain
Come quickly and abide or life is vain
I need Thee, O I need Thee, every hour I need Thee
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee

I need Thee ev'ry hour, teach me Thy will
Thy rich promises, in me fulfill
I need Thee, O I need Thee, every hour I need Thee
O bless me now, my Savior I come to Thee

After Communion Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen**

Blessing

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. In the Name of the Father, and the +Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Sending Song: When the Roll is Called up Yonder
When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more
And the morning breaks, eternal bright and fair
When the saved of earth shall gather
Over on the other shore
And the roll is called up yonder
I'll be there

Refrain:

When the roll is called up yonder
When the roll is called up yonder
When the roll is called up yonder
When the roll is called up yonder
I'll be there

On that bright and cloudless morning
When the dead in Christ shall rise
And the glory of His resurrection share
When His chosen ones shall gather
To their home beyond the skies
And the roll is called up yonder
I'll be there. **Refrain**

Dismissal – Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Mark Your Calendars:

- Sunday, August 1st – 9am Service at Nora
- Sunday, August 8th – 9am Service at Kirkebo, council following.

Pastor Michele Jenson: Phone: 701-261-0998 Email: mjenson001@luthersem.edu Web Page: www.perleyparish.org Email: perleyparish@gmail.com



Jesus Feeds 5,000

Dinner on the Grounds

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples,
"Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted."
John 6:12 (NIV)

Based on John 6:1-15 (NIV)



M U I X D S J F I Q K Y U G O
S L Q W K X F B A S K E T W K
W M O N S E N O U G H D J S V
N R A U T H O U S A N D I I P
C H S L T G Y R U L U K I E Z
T E B W L C M P I B Y F E N P
J T W E L V E F L T J N I G N
E A T X A L D S N T H V S A F
Z S F P C W O E Q I Q E F T Z
I T T I V P L A K V C B B H F
X G J E L P E T V E R A O E I
W F R T C L U O I E G R Y R V
K S I E J S E P P W S L K K E
K K B S A W X D O L W E U I Y
U U D J H T K U Y Z E Y W W Q

TWELVE
FILLED
BOY
PLENTY

FIVE
LOAVES
CROWD
GATHER

FISH
ENOUGH
PEOPLE
SMALL

BARLEY
JESUS
EAT
THOUSAND

THANKS
GREAT
BASKET
PIECES