

**Perley Parish**  
**Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 19**  
**August 8, 2021**

Gathering Hymn: O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,  
the fount of life, the light of all:  
from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts  
we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.

O Jesus, ever with us stay!  
Make all our moments fair and bright!  
Oh, chase the night of sin away!  
Shed o'er the world your holy light.

Welcome and Announcements

- Council at Kirkebo after the service
- Burial of Lorraine Crawford at Nora
- Where's Michele – just a few more weeks left
- Need something reach out!
- Next Sunday 9am at Kirkebo – council following



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, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

Psalms 34:1-8

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. **My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.** O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. **I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.** Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. **This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.** The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. **O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.**

## First Reading 1 Kings 19:4-8

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." <sup>5</sup> Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup> He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." <sup>8</sup> He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

## Holy Gospel according to John 6:35, 41-51 **Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Gospel of our Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ**

## Children's Message

Have you ever seen a food pyramid poster? The food pyramid was developed to help us know what kinds of foods we should eat to help us to grow strong, healthy bodies. I have one to show you. The picture shows all of the food groups. There are grains, vegetables, fruits, milk and dairy, meat, and fats and sweets.

As you can see, the largest part of the pyramid is foods that we make from grain. What are some foods we make from grain? Let's see, there is bread, cereal, muffins, tortillas, and a lot of other good things to eat. Most of the things we make from grain not only taste good, but they are good for us too. Bread has always been considered to be one of our most important foods. In fact, it has been called "the staff of life."

Even way back in Bible times, bread was very important to life. Do you remember the time God provided bread for the Israelites when they were starving in the desert? Every morning God sent bread from heaven for the people to eat. I'm sure you also remember the time when Jesus fed a crowd of 5000 people with just five loaves of bread and two small fish. Do you remember when Jesus taught his disciples to pray? He taught them to say, "Give us this day our daily bread." Yes, bread is, and always has been, a very important part of life.

A loaf of bread won't last forever. It gets old and stale. Not only that, but when we eat it, we are satisfied for a little while and then we are hungry again. Even though Jesus knew that bread was very important to life, he wanted something more for his children. He wanted something that would last

forever. One day, as he was teaching, Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever."

If we want to live, we need bread. If we want to live forever, we need Jesus -- the Bread of Life.

Our Father, we thank you for Jesus, the Bread of Life. We pray that each one here today will take and eat so that they may live forever. Amen.

### Message

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

Again we find ourselves talking about bread in our Gospel – and we will continue again into next week.

Fresh bread – there really isn't any better smell is there. I remember when Melissa would bring in warm fresh bread for communion on some Sundays and I would want to just sit in the back room and eat the whole thing before church even started. In fact it would be quite fun to watch the kids fight over who was going to eat the leftovers after the service was over on those Sundays. Whether it's white, wheat, rye, sourdough, pumpernickel or Italian or French – the smell of them just makes your mouth water doesn't it? I know it's not as common as it first was but I'm betting that many of you still have a bread machine at your house for those times when you want to make a fresh loaf.

I remember traveling in Europe – England, Scotland, Austria and Romania while I was in high school for our orchestra group (the Apollo Strings). I was very lucky to have those amazing opportunities and all of those places they really know how to make and eat bread. The crusty outside and the soft and warm insides of the pieces we would receive were just heavenly. Often times we weren't served butter but it didn't matter and I honestly can admit that as a very picky eater – that's what I would survive on when I was far away from home and in a different country with very different food options.

Some fun bread facts:

- Each American consumes, on average, 53 pounds of bread per year – 60.3 loaves per person
- Old wives tales tell that eating the bread crust makes a person's hair curlier.
- Before the Eraser was invented people used soft bread crumbs to erase pencil marks.
- Bread symbolizes piece on the most cultures of the world.
- Bread is so long with human race and so important that many religions incorporated bread in their rituals and traditions.

And interestingly, In the United States, bread sales have gone down 11.3% in the past five years. We MIGHT be starting to watch our Carbs a bit more!

Let me lay the ground work for our message today. It's been a couple weeks now, but we started our journey through the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter in John with Jesus performing the miracle of feeding the 5,000. Last week we saw how people liked being "fed" by Jesus and have followed him home to get fed again BUT that they still weren't quite believing He was the savior. They needed that sign. That proof. Jesus was performing miracles right there in their presence and although these miracles pointed them and us to a greater sign of His death and resurrection – they didn't see it.

Last week we started the conversation between Jesus and the crowd when Jesus tells them that the "bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." Remember their response? Instead of asking "WHO is he? How can the bread be a person or a person be bread?" They simply ask him to "give us the bread." It's isn't clear in whether they really understand

that bread is for “the life of the world”. Maybe they are still looking at being fed – receiving this bread – to regards to sustenance. To sustain their physical bodies.

Whatever they understand Jesus gives them bread – the true bread from heaven when he says “I am the bread of life, the life giving bread. I have come down out of heaven.” That’s it – he gives them the facts and they totally miss them. Their heads are spinning as he clearly didn’t come from heaven – he came from Nazareth. We know Mary and Joseph and we know she had Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem they discuss amongst themselves. Can’t you just picture all of those around him grumbling and discussing under the breath that he clearly didn’t fall from the sky – they KNOW who HE is.

Jesus realizes that he’s dealing with skeptics so he reminds them that their fathers ate the manna in the wilderness – the food that they could find here on the land and yet they died. They weren’t truly and everlastingly nourished by the manna. But that’s not the case of the bread that comes from heaven. The bread that Jesus gives is for the life of the world. And yes, the world is a really big place, a lot of people, but he has that same living bread for each and every one of us.

We know that Jesus came – was sent to us – to do the Father’s will. And he was obedient to what he was sent for. He knew what his job was and we can know that when you think about his prayers to the Father at Garden in Gethsemane when he prayed “not my will, but yours be done.” And he did just that. So think about it for a minute. If Jesus did his Father’s will – suffered, dyed and rose like he did – then surely we can believe that having paid and redeemed us that Jesus will also do the will of the father now and keep all from being lost. *“This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”* You and I – we are ones of the “everyone” who look to Jesus, who believe in Him and therefore have the promise of eternal life.

Sounds amazing but how can we be sure? Am I still on the list? Maybe I’ve done just way too much to deserve or remain on the roster? It’s hard to squeak by in this crazy world of ours and what if we have just done too much or NOT done enough?? Jesus tells us that “Whoever comes to Me, I will in no way cast him out.” God’s not going to knock us off that list just because we doubt. He’s not going to cast us away because we don’t measure up – because we just squeak by. In fact God doesn’t even measure us. He simply asks us to believe and come to Him.

Back in the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, God rescued them – not the Egyptians of course, but the Israelites and gave them manna. Now Jesus is giving US life. He is and has given it to us. Not just those who were gathered there this day of our Gospel. Not just the world as a whole – a nameless and faceless crowd. He gives it to us, you me and all those who believe. And we know that we are the ones He gives this too, for it all the work of God.

The Father, have you and me to Jesus. He draws us to Him and because He draws us we have come. And because we have come we look to Him, the one that the Father has sent. And because we look to Jesus, we believe in Him and have eternal life. He is ours and we are HIS. He will never cast us away or lose us. In fact, on that Last day – our last day – we shall be raised and we and all believers will live with Him forever.

Jesus died, Jesus rose AND He will come again to bring us to a life everlasting. Amen!

Hymn of the Day: One Bread, One Body

Refrain:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

Many the gifts  
Many the works  
One in the Lord, the Lord of all. Refrain

Grain for the fields  
Scattered and grown  
Gathered to one, to one for all. 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*

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.

For the church of Christ in all its diverse forms. For mission developers, new mission starts, and all communities of faith exploring new models of ministry, for the sake of the gospel. For congregations facing difficult decisions about their place in the future. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

For the health and well-being of creation. For shade trees that provide refuge from the hot summer sun. For lakes, streams and rivers that are becoming more and more dry. For the growth of fields and gardens that are so in need of rain Lord we seek your help. Help us to care better for our land and air. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

For those called to positions of authority we pray. Help them and us to continue to seek justice and peace for all those in our communities, our countries and our world. Where there is fighting help them to find peace. Where there is blood shed help them to find common ground. Where there is need help them to be sustained. Hear us O God, **your mercy is great.**

For all who cry out to you in their afflictions. For those who mourn the loss of those they love. Embrace all those who are sick, 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 lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love. 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!

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: Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

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

**Mark Your Calendars:**

- Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> – Old Fashioned service w/brunch following Parker Hayden Baptism
- Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 Nora Council Meeting at Nora  
7:30 Joint Council Meeting at Nora

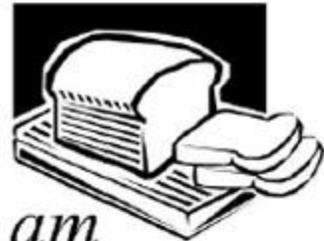


Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry"  
John 6:35

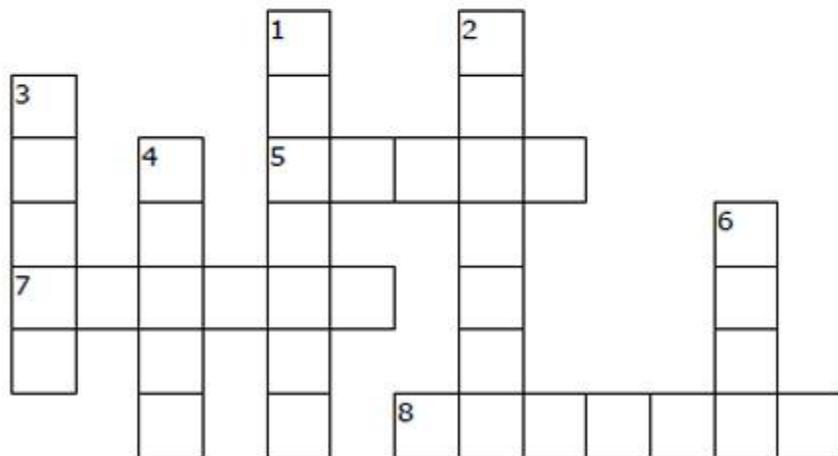
# The Living Bread

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:51 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on John 6:41-51



*"I am  
the living  
bread."*



## ACROSS

5. To gain knowledge through experience or study
7. To make an effort to hear something; to pay attention
8. A person who speaks for God; Isaiah, for example

## DOWN

1. To accept as true or real
2. For everlasting time; eternally
3. The earth with its inhabitants
4. The Son of God
6. To continue to be alive

LIVE  
LEARN

BELIEVE  
LISTEN

FOREVER  
WORLD

PROPHET  
JESUS



# The Living Bread

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:51 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



*"I am  
the living  
bread."*

P	U	W	R	C	G	E	J	O	B	I	Q	S	F	X	T	H	Z	D	N	Y	L	V	K	M	A
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 22-11-23-11-20-6 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-4-7-26-19 \_\_\_\_\_
- 17-7-26-23-7-20 \_\_\_\_\_
- 14-9-4-7-23-7-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 14-22-7-13-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-9-4-22-19 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-16-7-4-20-26-22 \_\_\_\_\_
- 22-11-14-7 \_\_\_\_\_

HEAVEN	BREAD	LIFE	FOREVER
ETERNAL	LIVING	FLESH	WORLD

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

FOREVER

ATE

WORLD

DIED

BREAD

LIFE

FLESH

DESERT

LIVING

JESUS

EVERLASTING

HEAVEN

TRUTH

BELIEVE

MANNA