

August 2, 2020 9:30 am

## 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This morning we will share together Holy Communion in our online worship. Those who are blessing and receiving the sacrament at home, please prepare a slice or small loaf of bread, corn tortilla, or rice cake to share and a cup or small cups of juice -- perhaps grape or cranberry -- or wine, with or without alcohol.<sup>1</sup>

Text printed in **BOLD** in the bulletin indicates that everyone is to read and/or sing. However, in our virtual space we ask that all but the readers and musicians remain muted – you can still read aloud and sing at home!

"Make a joyful noise unto God..." Psalm 100:1

#### **GATHERING TOGETHER**

Welcome and Life of the Community (Announcements)

Opening Song Supplication Lani Smith

# Call to Worship<sup>2</sup>

**One:** When our spirits are restless and unsettled, when peace is nowhere to be found, the grace of God wraps around us.

All: We do not rush through periods of darkness, but welcome their gifts that transform.

One: In seasons of despair, truth comes to wrestle with us.

All: In silence, honesty voices its concerns.

**One:** From the unknowns that surround, possibilities emerge.

All: Courage calls us to linger patiently in discomfort.

One: In the light of day and the dark of night, God is with us.

All: Thanks be to God who upholds us in love.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maren Tirabasssi, "Holy Communion Liturgy for August 2, 2020," Gifts in Open Hands, June 27, 2020, https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2020/07/24/holy-communion-liturgy-for-august-2-2020/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Today's order of worship is from "Liturgy That Matters, August 2, 2020." Enfleshed, 2020.

## **Opening Prayer**

Holy Agitator, come and wrestle with our hearts. Push and pull on our self-understandings. Challenge our perceptions that confine and confront our thinking that leads us to harm. Meet us in the places deep within and let your Spirit lead us in truth and healing. Amen.

#### **HEARING THE WORD**

Scripture Reading Matthew 14: 13-21

Time with Children Rebecca Malke

**Special Music** 

**Reflection** Hungry for a Miracle Pastor Kris

SHARING OUR LIVES

Call to Prayer: Alleluia! Where Shall We Go

#### **Prayers of the People**

During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. Pastor Kris will collect the petitions and read them during the service. Know that prayers shared this day are public. If you have prayer request you would like to remain private, you may email them to: pastorkris@memorialucc.org

## **Prayer of Jesus**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## SHARING A MEAL<sup>3</sup>

As we worship digitally, you are invited to gather elements for communion from your home. Bread, homemade or purchased, an English muffin, a donut can become a sacrament. A cup of water or tea can become a remembrance of God's redeeming love. You can "taste and see that God is good," Psalm 34:8, even if you do not partake). All are welcome at this meal.

#### **Invitation to the Table**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Maren Tirabasssi, "Holy Communion Liturgy for August 2, 2020," Gifts in Open Hands, July 27, 2020, https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2020/07/24/holy-communion-liturgy-for-august-2-2020/.

#### **Prayer of Consecration**

**Pastor Kris:** In the story about feeding a multitude, Jesus asked that people bring to him what they had... We ask God's blessing on them to make them enough and also to make them abundant for us and for all those who are in our prayers this morning.

All: God of compassion, you bless and break everything we are and everything we bring to you. Our deep scarcity becomes enough to sustain us, and then our "enough" becomes an abundance we could never imagine. We pray that your Spirit of life and love, of tenderness and power, rest upon every bread and every cup, that they may feed the inmost need of each child of God and pour forth a grace that can change the world. Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you. Amen.

#### Words of Remembering

**Pastor Kris:** We remember the Creator fed the aurora borealis and ocean depths... sit down here and now, to eat and drink, be blessed and broken.

#### Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Pastor Kris: The bread on your table is blessed and broken like the picnic of grace.

All: Sharing love, we will never be hungry.

Pastor Kris: The cup on your table is blessed and shared

like the overflowing of tears and joy.

All: Drinking deeply, we will never thirst.

Together we share the bread and cup

# Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Pastor Kris:** In thanksgiving for the meal that heals yesterday and the unexpected grace that empowers tomorrow, we pray for the wisdom to give away as fast as possible some twelve baskets of leftovers ...

All: O Holy One, as we received this sacrament in the holy dispersion of virtual worship, (and the holy distancing in church pews), we thought we "ordered" from a select gourmet menu, and never expected to become the curbside pickup of your love and justice, of your compassion and courage, of your hope and healing for all of your children who need a meal in a deserted place. Help us gather the leftovers from the miracles in our lives and give them away. Amen.

#### GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

Song for Going Out #81

God Be With You<sup>4</sup>

verses 1 & 3

God be with you till we meet again; By good counsel guide, uphold you, With a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Tomer, William G. 1880. New Century Hymnal #81.

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet; Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; When life's perils thick confound you, Put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

#### **Benediction**

Postlude As We Depart Robert W. Thygerson

#### **Worship Leaders:**

Jonathan Schroerlucke, Jeff Darwin, Rebecca Malke, Pastor Kris Gorton

Readers: Jan Klawitter and Jill Carlson

Virtual Usher: Steve Gorton

## Stay for Virtual Coffee Hour!

Following the service, you are invited to stay for conversation. Bring your own coffee, milk and/or donuts! All you need to do is to stay "in" Zoom as the service ends (don't click "leave meeting").

We will break into small groups that will last about 15 minutes. At the beginning of the breakout, introduce yourself, share how you are doing, and/or share where you have seen the Spirit move in your life this week. At the end of the 15 minutes we will gather again in a larger group and share our experiences.

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