

Growing in

CHRIST

A THIRTEEN-WEEK COURSE FOR
NEW AND GROWING CHRISTIANS

INCLUDES

LESSONS ON
ASSURANCE



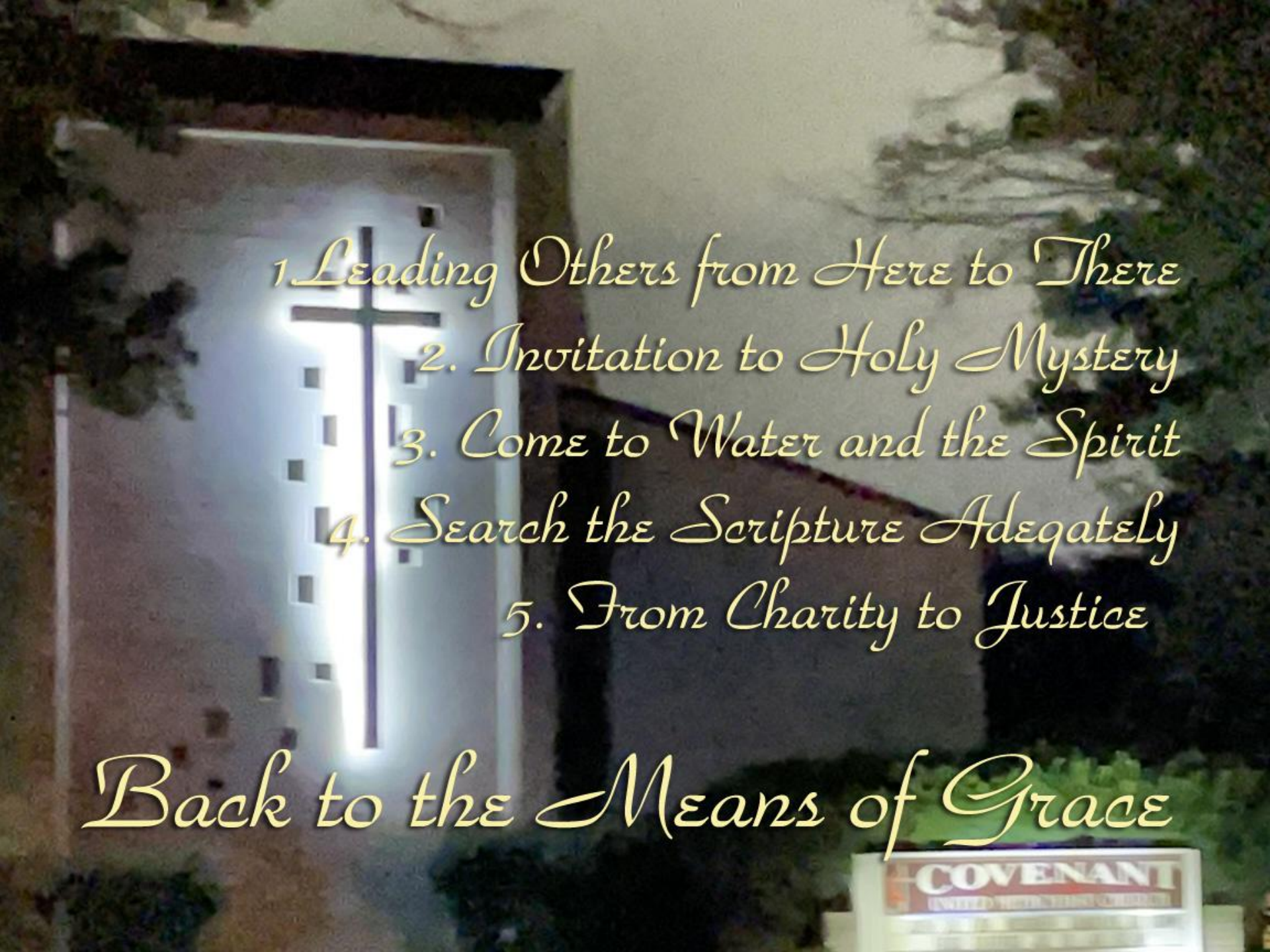
INCLUDES

LESSONS ON
CHRISTIAN
LIVING



Let's get
**Back TO
Church**

journeyforthebread.net/credoergosum.html

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1. *Leading Others from Here to There*
 2. *Invitation to Holy Mystery*
 3. *Come to Water and the Spirit*
 4. *Search the Scripture Adequately*
 5. *From Charity to Justice*

Back to the Means of Grace





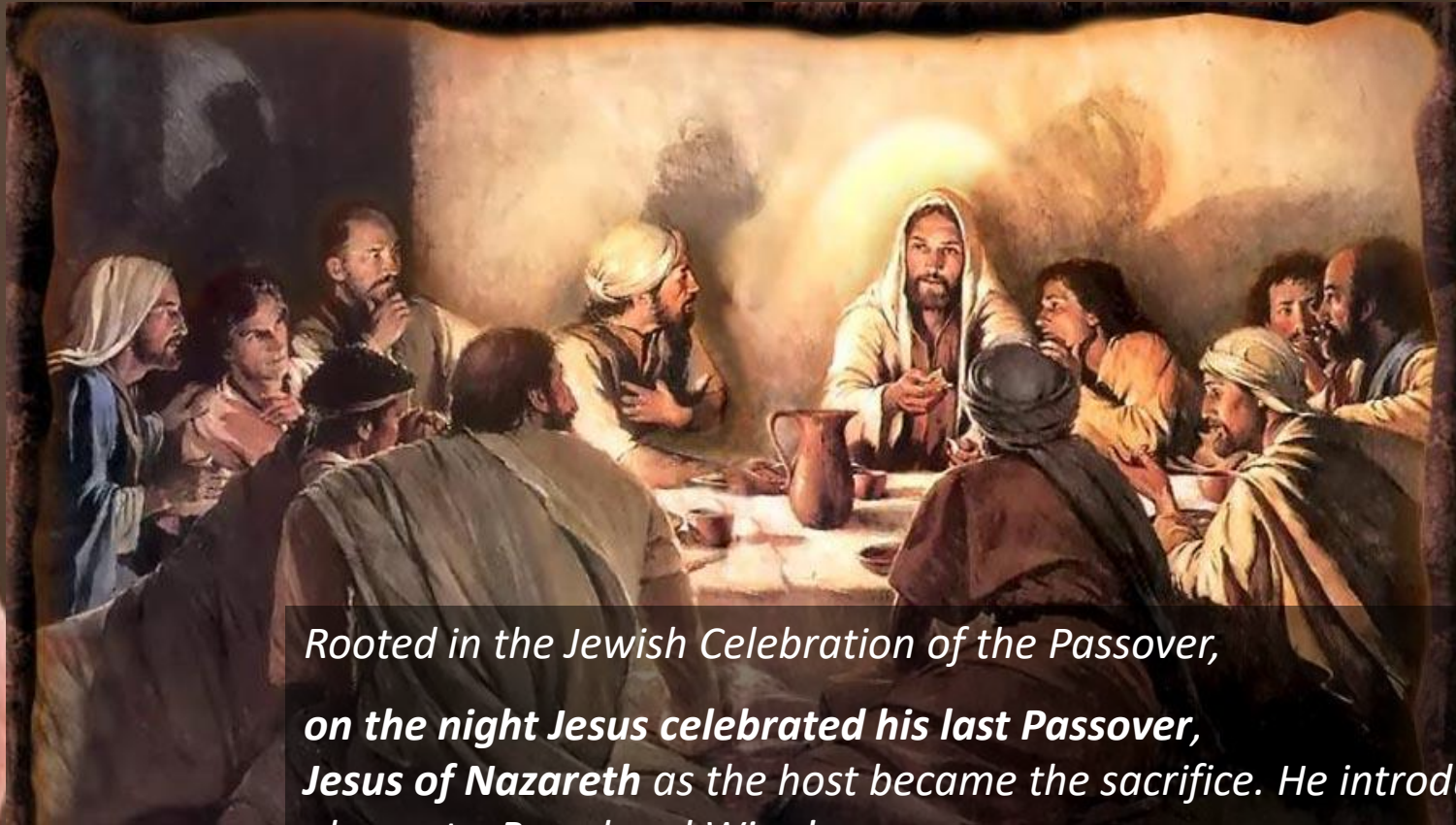
communion & baptism



*September 28, 2025
at 11:15 a.m.*

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR
NEW & POTENTIAL MEMBERS CLASS

journeyforthebread.net/credoergosum.html



*Rooted in the Jewish Celebration of the Passover,
on the night Jesus celebrated his last Passover,
Jesus of Nazareth as the host became the sacrifice. He introduced new
elements: Bread and Wine!*

*Jesus “took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and
said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’
In the same way he took the cup, after supper, saying,
‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.’”*

(1 Cor. 11:23-25; Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7-38)



The LORD'S SUPPER

*Each service of Holy Communion service is an enactment of that evening and also a recalling of Calvary. Believers remember **the sacrificial death of Jesus**. During early generations of the church history, the Communion service was **part of a congregational meal**.*

In First Corinthians Paul indicates that early Christians were already beginning to trivialize the ceremony (1 Cor. 11:17-34), and that Paul was filled with awe and respect for the sacredness and the inherent power of the event.

*The sacrament was more than a memorial service; Christ was present, with the potential for both **healing and judgment**. (Christian Believer, 222)*



Mass: *Trans-substantiation*

At the point in the Mass when the elements are consecrated the substance of the bread and wine is transformed into the substance of Christ's body and blood, even while the appearance of bread and wine remain.



The Divine Liturgy, uniting heaven and earth through prayers, readings, and Holy Communion.



The Lord's Supper: *Consubstantiation*

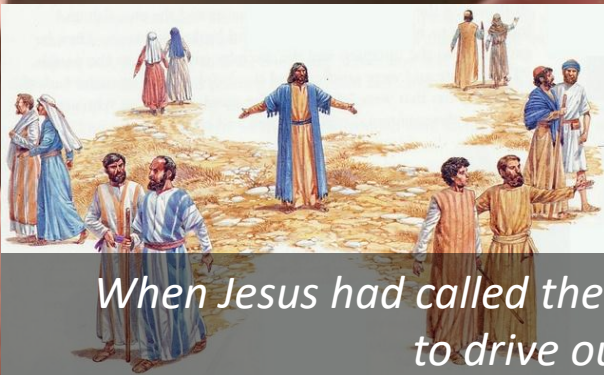
*The substance of the bread and wine are not changed into the body and blood of Christ, but they only **co-exist with one another**, so that bread is joined together with body and wine with blood.*

*The Power of Christ is **present** in the Eucharist for those who receive it with faith.*

The Service is an event honoring Christ and remembering his sacrifice, but not identifying his presence in a distinctive way.

Luke 9:10-17

The Return of the 12 Apostles – “the Sent”



*When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out demons and to cure diseases, and **he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and heal the sick. . .** They set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere. (Luke 9:1-2, 6)*

Luke 9:10-17

Jesus and "the Apostles" at Bethsaida



Mark 6:30-44, Feeding of 5000

[Mk 6:45-56, Jesus Walks on the Water]

[Mk 7:1-23, Clean and Unclean]

[Mk 7:24-30, Healing of a Daughter of a Syro-phoenician woman]

[Mk 7:31-37, Healing of a Deaf/Mute Man]

[Mk 8:1-14, Feeding of 4000]

[Mk 8:15-21, The Yeast of the Pharisees and Herod]

[Mk 8:22-26, The Healing of a Blind Man at Bethsaida]

Mark 8:27-30, Peter's Confession of Christ



Luke 9:10-17

Jesus' Teaching about the Kingdom of God



Find His Kingdom!

Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida,

but the crowds learned about it and followed him.

*He welcomed them and spoke to them about **the Kingdom of God**, and **healed** those who needed healing.*

Luke 9:11

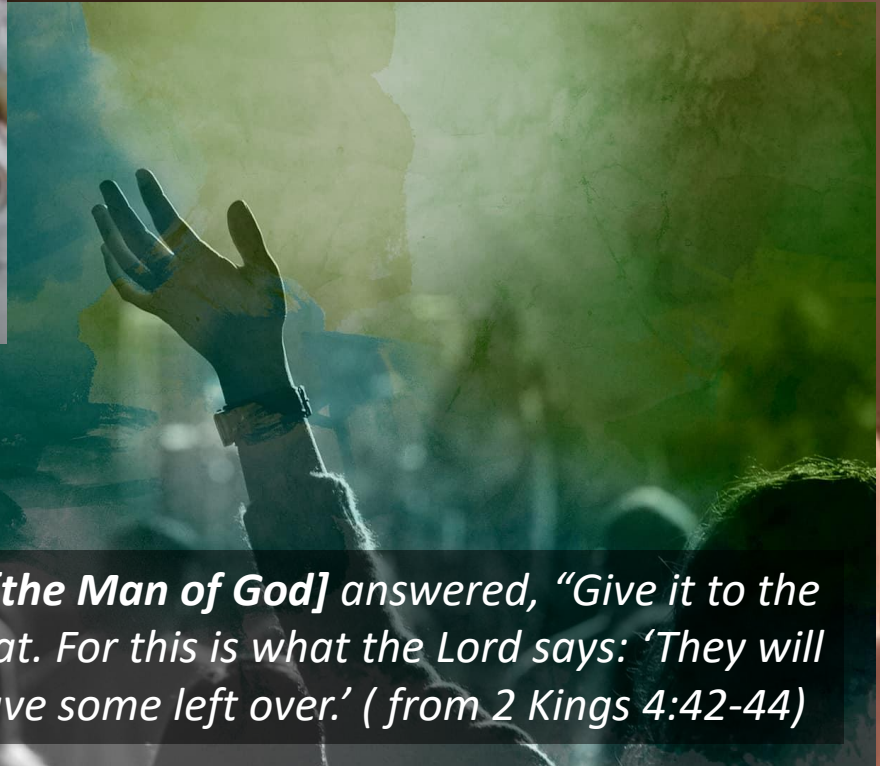
Luke 9:10-17

Jesus Had the Disciples Feed the Crowds

JESUS:

**You give
them
something
to eat.**

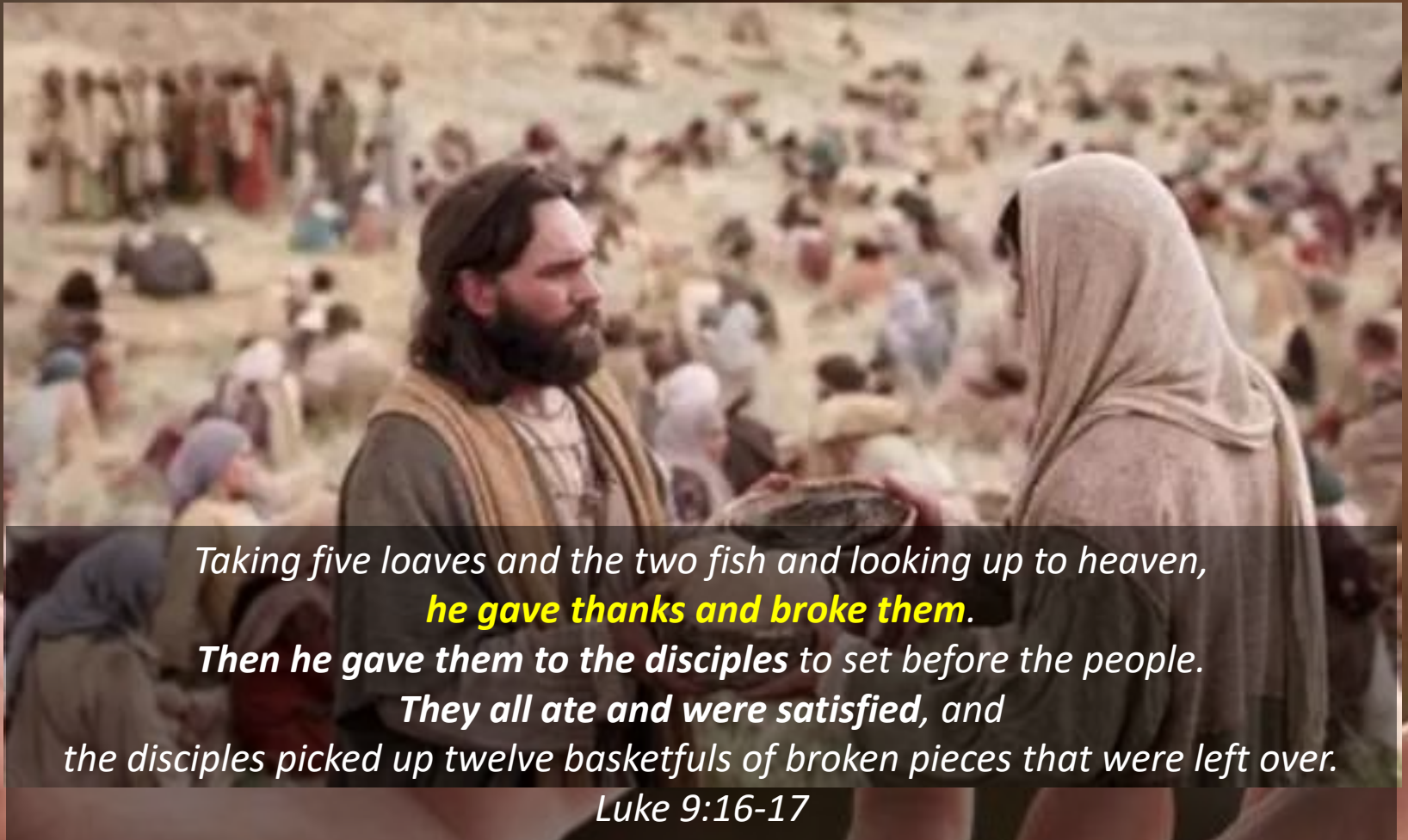
Luke 9:13



But Elisha [the Man of God] answered, "Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the Lord says: 'They will eat and have some left over.' (from 2 Kings 4:42-44)

Luke 9:10-17

Jesus and His Disciples Feed the Hungry



*Taking five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven,
he gave thanks and broke them.*

Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the people.

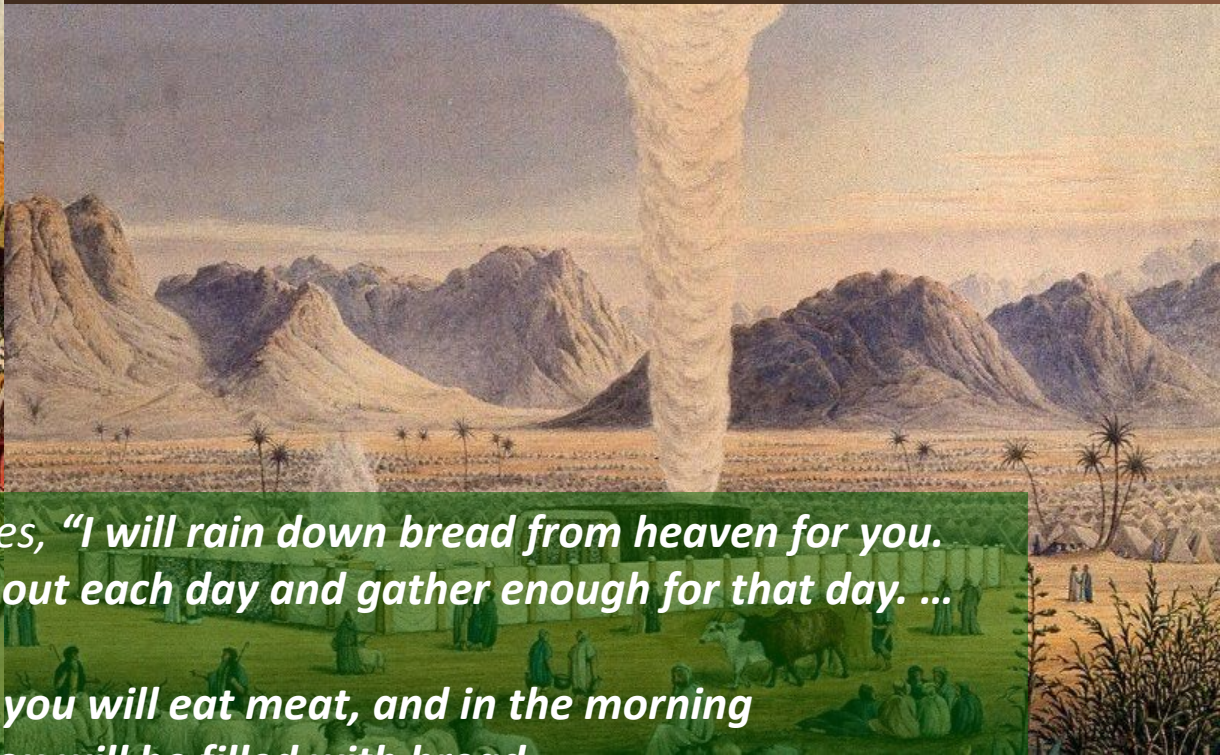
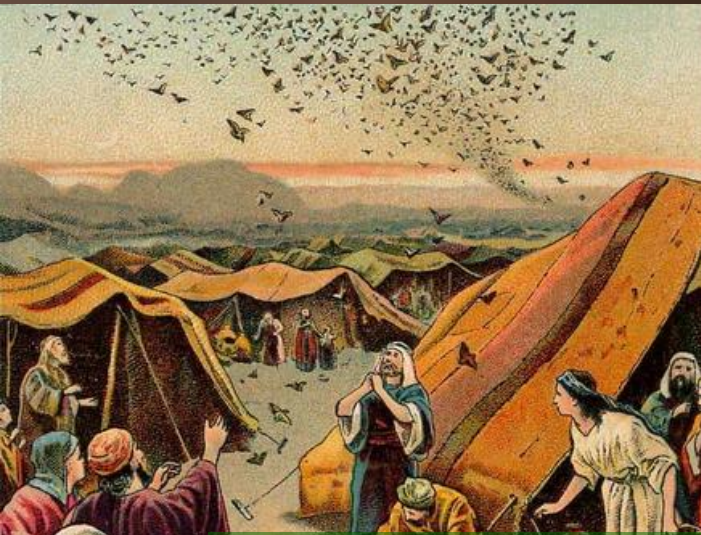
*They all ate and were satisfied, and
the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.*

Luke 9:16-17

1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?

Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?



The Lord said to Moses, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. ...

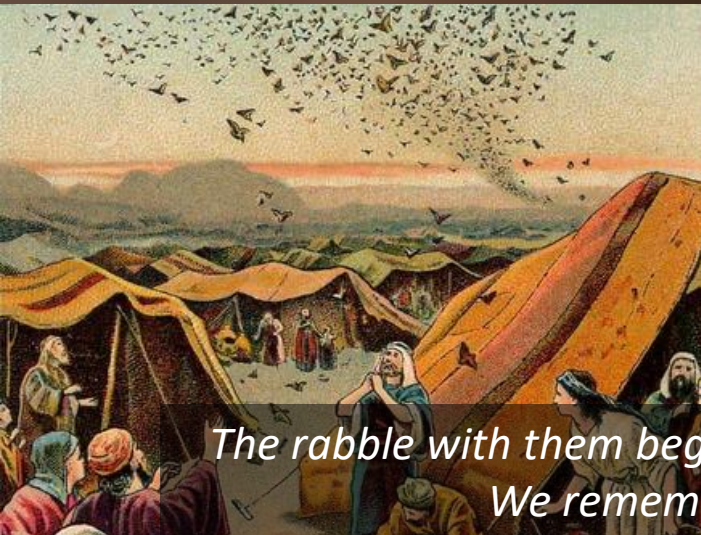
At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. ...

Exodus 16



Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

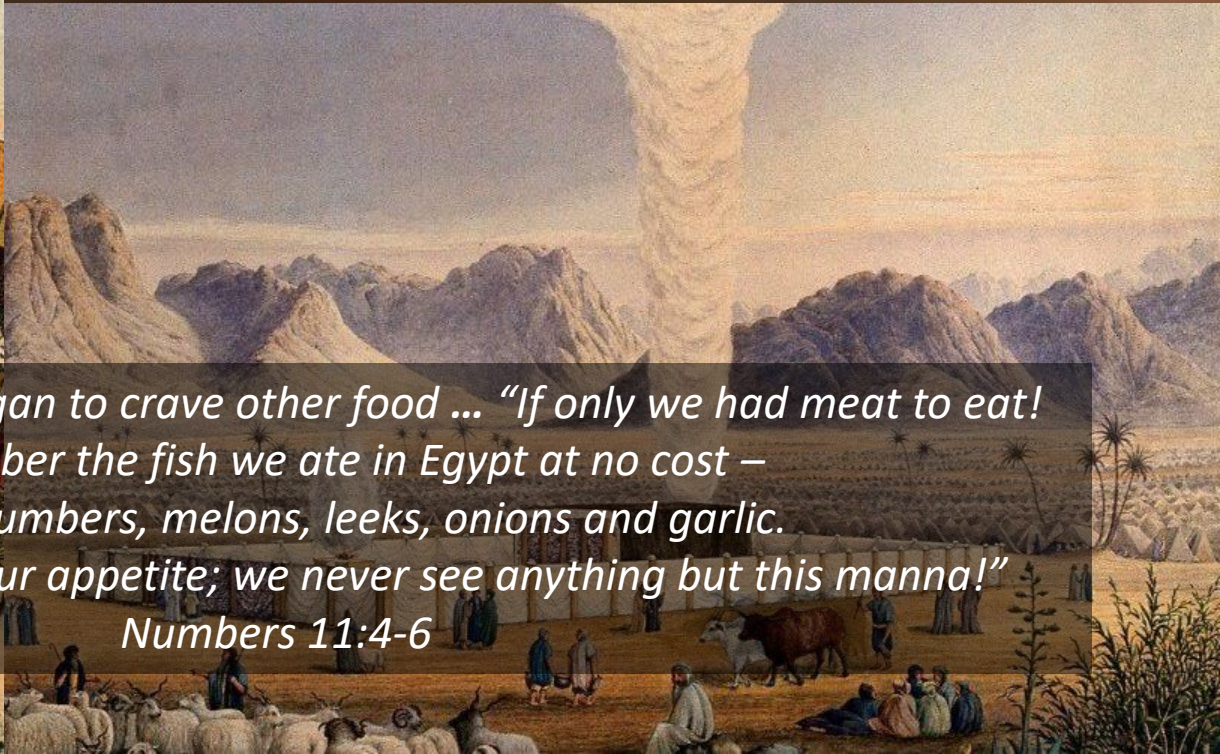
1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?



The rabble with them began to crave other food ... “If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost – also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic.

But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!”

Numbers 11:4-6



Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?



If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life – he cannot be my disciples. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:26-27

Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?

Toward a Richer Sacramental Life ...



***Act of Thanksgiving, Fellowship, Remembrance, Sacrifice,
Action of Holy Spirit, Eschatology***

"This Holy Mystery: A UM Understanding of Holy Communion"
Book of Resolution 2020/2024, pp 787-836

Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

1. *How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?*



Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?

2. Welcome those who gather, proclaim the Kingdom of God, and heal those who need healing.



Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

2. *Welcome those who gather, proclaim the Kingdom of God, and heal those who need healing.*

*And Jesus went about all Galilee,
teaching in their synagogues,
preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and*

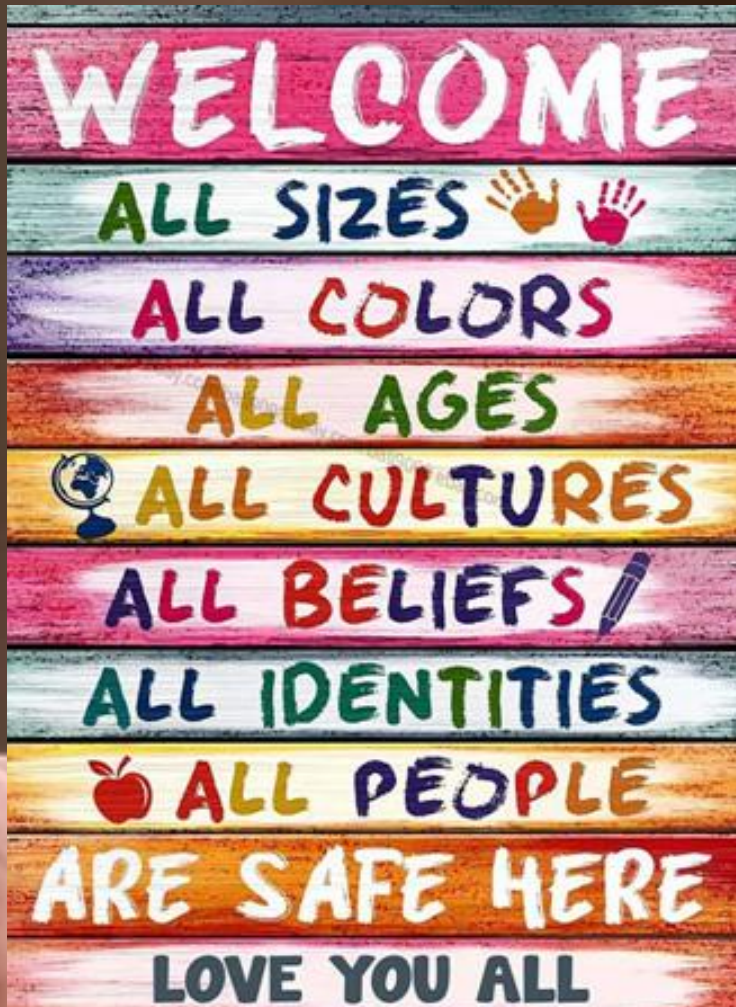
HEALING

*all kinds of sickness and all kinds
of disease among the people.*


Matthew 4:23

Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

2. Welcome those who gather, proclaim the Kingdom of God, and heal those who need healing.



Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

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- 3. 1. How can our church best respond to the wonderful hunger of its people for this holy mystery?*
- 2. Welcome those who gather, proclaim the Kingdom of God, and heal those who need healing.*
- 3. Jesus said, “You give them something to eat.”*

Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery

3. Jesus said, “You give them something to eat.”



Back to the Means of Grace
Part 2. Invitation to Holy Mystery