

**The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost  
Sunday August 8, 2021**



***“Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.” I Kings 19.7***

**Prince of Peace  
Brockton, Massachusetts 508-586-7975**

## Prelude

### Welcome

We don't often talk about biblical "heroes" suffering from severe depression, but the description of Elijah entering the wilderness praying to die certainly points to that experience. The angel's directive to "get up and eat" sounds simple, but anyone who has struggled with depression knows that those two "easy" physical acts can be extraordinarily difficult to accomplish. Jesus' call to eat of "the bread that came down from heaven" can be just as difficult, spiritually speaking. Both experiences—mental health crisis and spiritual health crisis—can be hard for a community to acknowledge, especially in a culture that often assumes that having faith will make life easier.

### Prayer

#### Call to Worship:

This is the day the Lord has made,

**Let us be glad and rejoice in it!**

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone,  
**but by every word that comes from you.**

Bless us as we hear your word.

**Make us hunger for the Word of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

#### Time for Confession and Forgiveness

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

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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 go?**

**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.  
**you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. Amen**

## **Song: Shall We Gather at the River**

1 Shall we gather at the river,  
where bright angel feet have trod,  
with its crystal tide forever  
flowing by the throne of God?

### *Refrain*

Yes, we'll gather at the river,  
the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river  
that flows by the throne of God.

2 On the margin of the river,  
washing up its silver spray,

we will walk and worship ever,  
all the happy golden day. *Refrain*

3 Ere we reach the shining river,  
lay we ev'ry burden down;  
grace our spirits will deliver,  
and provide a robe and crown.

### *Refrain*

4 Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
soon our happy hearts will quiver  
with the melody of peace. *Refrain*

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the day:** Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the 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.**

Children's Moment

## **First Reading:** 1 Kings 19:4-8

<sup>4</sup>[Elijah] 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.  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### **Psalm 34:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>I will bless the LORD at all times;  
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>**I will glory in the LORD;  
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

<sup>3</sup>Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;  
let us exalt God’s name together.

<sup>4</sup>**I sought the LORD, who answered me  
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

<sup>5</sup>Look upon the LORD and be radiant,  
and let not your faces<sup>l</sup> be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me  
and saved me from all my troubles.**

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD  
and delivers them.

<sup>8</sup>**Taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

### **Gospel Greeting: (sing it out!)**

**Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia,  
Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia!**

**Gospel:** John 6:35, 41-51

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to [the crowd,] “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>41</sup>Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” <sup>42</sup>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?’” <sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>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. <sup>45</sup>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. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from

heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord! **Praise to you O Christ!**

### **Gospel Greeting: (sing it out!)**

**Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia,  
Al-le-lu--ia, Al-le--lu--ia!**

### **Message**

### **Song: Just a Closer Walk with Thee**

#### Refrain

Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee,  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1 I am weak but thou art strong:  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain*
  
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain*
  
- 3 When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er  
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain*

Text: North American traditional

### **Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **The Peace**

### **Announcements—**

**--Non-perishable food drive to support the pantry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Edith Stein.**

**--Thirsty Thursday: Pictures to [prandall22@gmail.com](mailto:prandall22@gmail.com). Theme: "We are invited to eat, share and love."**

### **Offering time**

**Offering Prayer: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord we pray. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

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

*A brief silence.*

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 future. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the health and well-being of creation. For shade trees that provide refuge from the hot summer sun. For lakes, rivers, and oceans contaminated by pollution and all who lack clean water. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those called to positions of authority in our legal system, we pray. For judges, lawyers, law clerks, and court employees who ensure the fair administration of justice.

For corrections officers and prison chaplains, that they would deal mercifully with those who are incarcerated. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who cry out to you in their affliction. For exiles, refugees, and others who face long and difficult journeys, uncertain about the future. For all who mourn the death of a loved one. For all who are sick. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this assembly gathered around your table, we pray. For those among us who bake bread and prepare the vessels for our communion celebration. For those who bring the food from this table to those who are homebound or hospitalized. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

For those who have been raised to eternal life, we give thanks. With *Dominic and* all the saints we praise you for the bread of life that keeps us in your love forever. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Blessing:**

May the blessing of God,  
who provides for us, who feeds us, and who is with us wherever we go, be  
upon you, now and forever. **Amen!**

## **Song: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,  
praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.
  
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird, and flowing fountain  
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,  
all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Postlude**

**Thanks for joining us!**

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