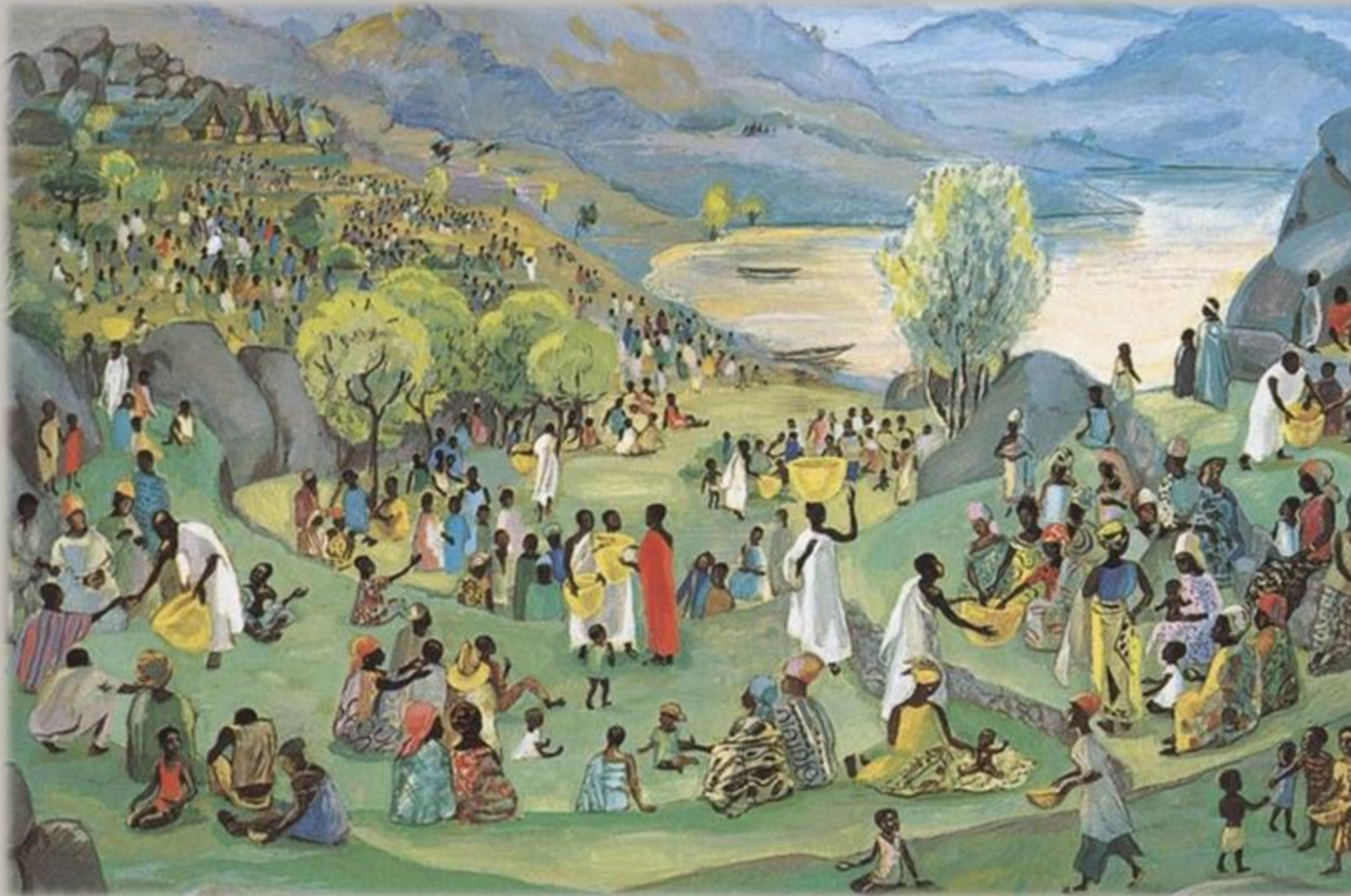


Tenth Sunday After Pentecost



Jesus multiplies the loaves and fish
Jesus MAFA 1973

August 2nd 2026
Portage Lake United Church

Welcome and Announcements

*We gather in the name of the Holy Trinity, one God, source of all goodness and mercy.
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

- The August sign-up for Sunday morning volunteers in the lounge.
Please add your name and help us worship!
- The Angel Mission needs: Low-sodium canned meats (Sloppy-joe, chili, etc.)
- ***Are there any other announcements?***



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

*Liturgical Color Green – Ordinary Time
Lectionary Year A*

Presider: Rev. Peter Norland
Musicians: Susie Byykkonen
Greeters: Lois Jambekar
Reader: Lois Jambekar
Prayer Writer: Jim Northey
Coffee: Sangja Lee and Biruta Lowther



MEDITATION

God's love for us does not depend on what we do or say, on our looks or intelligence, on our success or popularity. God's love for us existed before we were born and will exist after we have died.

From: Bread for the Journey, by Henri J.M. Nouwen

PRELUDE

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

Norwegian folk melody/arr. Tom Fettke

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Welcome to a celebration of God's love for us!

We surely need to see that love; life can weigh us down.

You've come to the right place. This is a place where all of us can seek God's presence and share our deepest inmost concerns with God.

We need to hear that, for sometimes, we all wrestle with our faith too.

Don't fear! God is with you always, loving and transforming your lives.

God is merciful and compassionate, and fills our hungry souls.

Let us worship with open hearts today!

HYMN “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

#460 BLUE

1 Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim;
all in heaven above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.

2 Hark! The glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
“Holy, holy, holy Lord!”

3 All apostles join the strain
as your sacred name they hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the blessed martyrs follow,
and from morn to set of sun,
through the church the song goes on.

4 Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit: three we name you,
while in essence only one;
undivided God we claim you,
and adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

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Attr. Ignaz Franz, c. 1774
Trans. Clarence Alphonsus Walworth, 1858; alt.

Allgemeines Katholisches Gesangbuch, c. 1774
Alt. Johann Gottfried Schicht, 1819



1. Ho - ly God, we praise Your name; Lord of all, we
2. Hark, the glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
3. All a - pos - tles join the strain As Your sa - cred
4. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it:

bow be - fore You; All on earth Your scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name they hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
Three we name You, While in es - sence on - ly One;

All in heaven a - bove a - dore You. In - fi - nite Your
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heavens with
And the bless - ed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to
Un - di - vid - ed God we claim You, And a - dor - ing

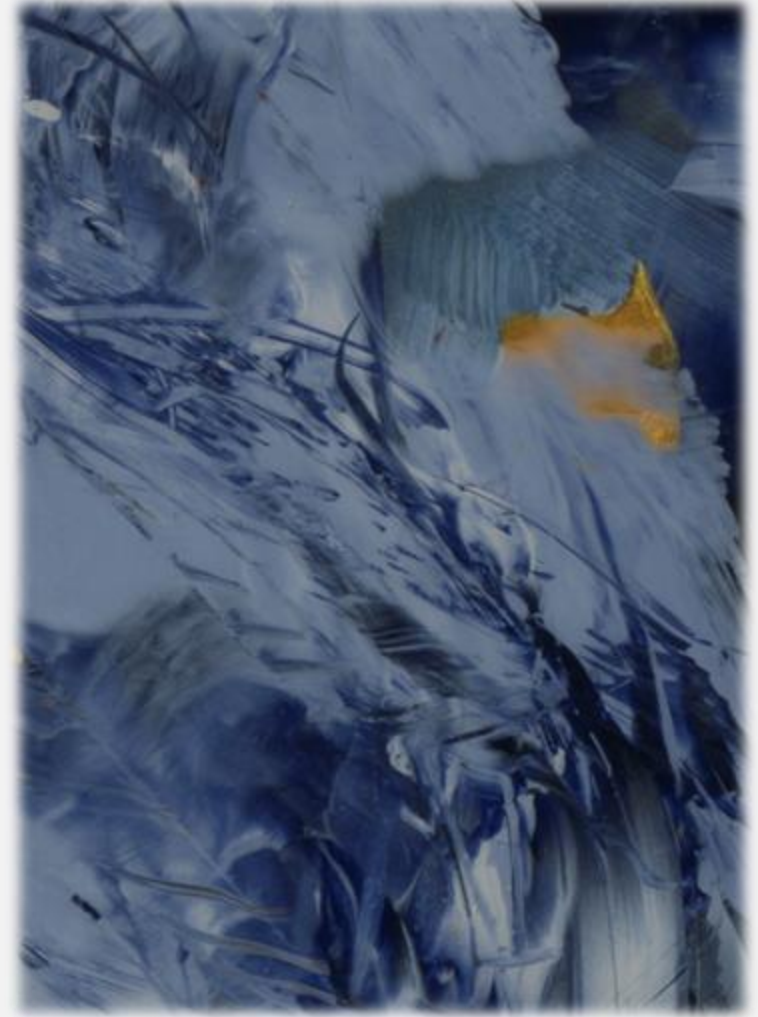
vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Your reign.
sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.
set of sun, Through the church the song goes on.
bend the knee While we own the mys - ter - y.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful and persistent God,
we turn to you with who we are, with what we have, and
with all we hope.
We call upon you because you care;
you are attentive to our cries of concern and shouts of joy.
We come to pray, sing, and wrestle with you, O God.
We also come to receive clarity and discernment,
to receive and give testimony of your persistent love,
and to receive and affirm the beauty of your path.
Hold us securely by your Spirit and never let us go. **Amen.**

+ PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Generous God,
you freely offer us all we need.
You offer us the bread of life,
so we may never be hungry again.
You offer us living water,
so we will never thirst.
But we scoff at your gifts,
wasting our money, time, and energy
on things that do not satisfy.
Forgive us and call to us again,
reminding us of your gifts of new life
that are ours if we would only accept them.



Only Speak the Word © Jan Richardson
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✚ DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Responsive)

Incline your ear, listen:
God makes an everlasting covenant with us.
God forgives us, renews us, refreshes us, and
leads us onward.
Thanks be to God!



And Cleanse Me © Jan Richardson
janrichardsonimages.com

+ PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Greet each other with a sign of God's peace.

Children of God, we are the body of Christ.

**By one spirit
we were baptized into one body.**

Keep the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.

Amen! We are bound by the love of Christ.





WORD

*God speaks to us in
scripture, reading,
preaching and song*

Jacob and the Angel
Annette Gandy Fortt

<https://annettefortt.com/>

FIRST READING Genesis 32:22-31

Jacob receives God's blessing

32:22 The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.

32:23 He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

32:24 Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

32:25 When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.

32:26 Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me."

32:27 So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob."

32:28 Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed."

32:29 Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him.

32:30 So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved."

32:31 The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

Second Reading Romans 9:1-5

God's Election of Israel

9 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

“Table of Plenty” #247 GREEN

Refrain

Come to the feast of heaven and earth!
Come to the table of plenty!
God will provide for all that we need,
here at the table of plenty.

1 O come and sit at my table
where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely
to share the cup of my love.

Refrain

2 O come and eat without money;
come to drink without price.
My feast of gladness
will feed your spirit
with faith and fullness of life.

Refrain

3 My bread will ever sustain you
through days of sorrow and woe.
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness
to flood the depths of your soul.

Refrain

4 Your fields will flower in fullness;
your homes will flourish in peace.
For I, the giver of home and harvest,
will send my rain on the soil.

Refrain.



Refrain D D9/C# G6/B D/A G/B
Come to the feast of heav-en and earth! Come to the ta -
ble of plen - ty! God will pro-vide for all that we
need, here at the ta - ble of plen - ty.

D/A G/B D A D D9/C# G/B A7sus D D9sus
need, here at the ta - ble of plen - ty.

D Am7 D Am7
1 O come and sit at my ta - ble where saints and
2 O come and eat with-out mon-ey; come to
3 My bread will ev - er sus - tain you through days of
4 Your fields will flow - er in full-ness; your homes will

D G A D
sin - ners are friends. I wait to wel - come the lost and
drink with - out price. My feast of glad - ness will feed your
sor - row and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of
flour - ish in peace. For I, the giv - er of home and

D9/C# G6/B Em C C/B A7sus A7 Refrain
lone - ly to share the cup of my love.
spir - it with faith and full - ness of life.
glad - ness to flood the depths of your soul.
har - vest, will send my rain on the soil.

+ GOSPEL READING Matthew 14:13-21

Feeding the Five Thousand

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Sermon



Hand of God with loaves and fish
United Reform Church
Brighton, England

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

God of unending gifts,
we praise you for your abundant goodness.
As you are generous, we want to be generous too.
May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world,
so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace.
Amen.



Sherry Middlemiss-Brown

1
When the church of Jesus shuts its outer door,
lest the roar of traffic drown the voice of prayer,
may our prayers, Lord, make us ten times more aware
that the world we banish is our Christian care.

2
If our hearts are lifted where devotion soars
high above this hungry, suffering world of ours,
lest our hymns should drug us to forget its needs,
forge our Christian worship into Christian deeds.

3
Lest the gifts we offer—money, talents, time—
serve to salve our conscience, to our secret shame,
Lord, reprove, inspire us by the way you give;
teach us, risen Savior, how true Christians live.

When the Church of Jesus

265



1 When the church of Je - sus shuts its out - er door,
2 If our hearts are lift - ed where de - vo - tion soars
3 Lest the gifts we of - fer— mon - ey, tal - ents, time—



lest the roar of traf - fic drown the voice of prayer,
high a - bove this hun - gry, suf - fer - ing world of ours,
serve to salve our con - science, to our se - cret shame,



may our prayers, Lord, make us ten times more a - ware
lest our hymns should drug us to for - get its needs,
Lord, re - prove, in - spire us by the way you give;



that the world we ban - ish is our Chris - tian care.
forge our Chris - tian wor - ship in - to Chris - tian deeds.
teach us, ris - en Sav - ior, how true Chris - tians live.

Text: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), based on James 2:14-17
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Text © 1969, Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1925, Oxford University Press, Inc.

65 65 D
KING'S WESTON

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Response: Christ who makes living water from
bowls of tears, hear our prayers.*



Sherry Middlemis Brown

MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift you your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (ECUMENICAL)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.



The Best Supper © Jan Richardson janrichardsonimages.com

MEAL

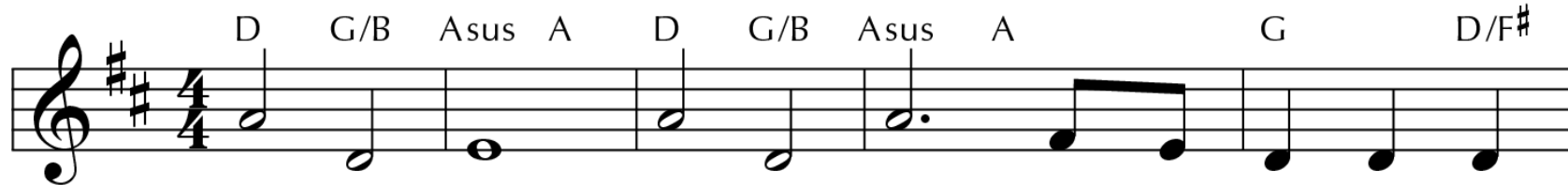
GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

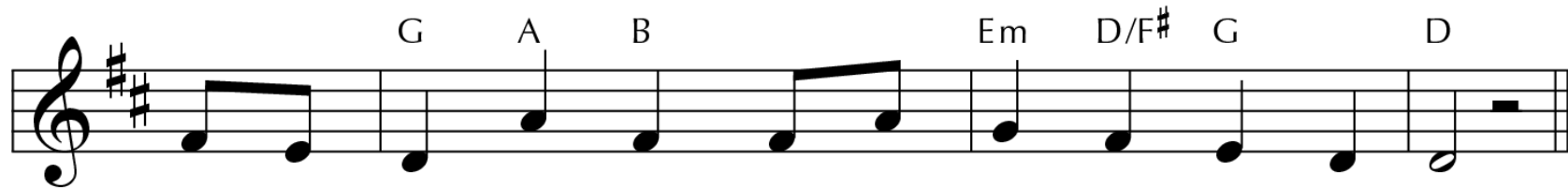


Feed Us, Lord

501



1 Feed us, Lord. Feed us, Lord. In the bro - ken bread,
 2 Quench us, Lord. Quench us, Lord. On this thirst - y ground,
 3 Fill us, Lord. Fill us, Lord, with the bread and wine
 4 Lead us, Lord. Lead us, Lord, nour-ished here by Christ,



be re - vealed a - gain. Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.
 may your love flow down. Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.
 of the ris - en Christ. Come and fill our hearts, O Lord.
 giv - en strength for life. Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.

Not many Lord's Supper hymns call attention to the post-Resurrection meals Christ shared with his disciples, but the first stanza here alludes to the meal at Emmaus, when he was made known in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13–35), and stanza three refers to “the risen Christ.”

MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



SENDING

Sherry Middlemis-Brown



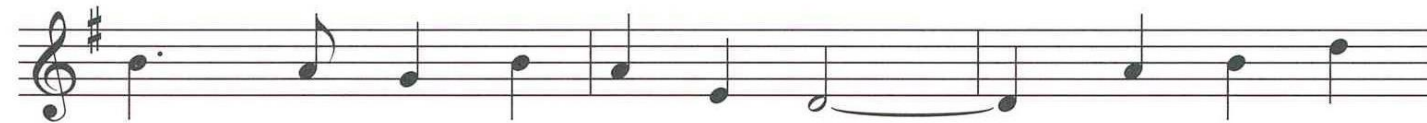
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

294

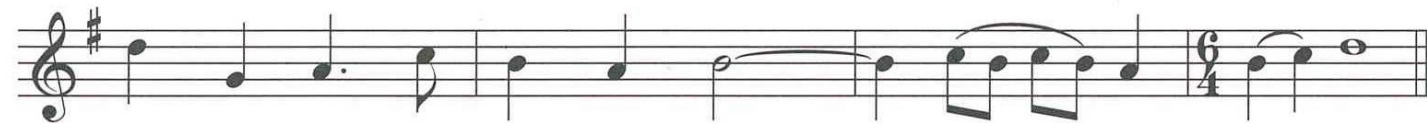
Go to the World!



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth; go preach the
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place; go live the
3 Go to the world! Go strug-gle, bless, and pray; the nights of
4 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am



cross where Christ re - news life's worth, bap - tiz - ing
word of God's re - deem - ing grace; go seek God's
tears give way to joy - ful day. As ser - vant
with you till the age shall end, when all the



as the sign of our re - birth.
pres - ence in each time and space. Al - le - lu - ia!
Church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men."

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Feed, changed, called, and empowered,
go now in the power and provision of Christ
to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and serve
the world.

Christ himself, who holds you in his hands,
has blessed you, broken you, and given you
as his gift to the world.
May the grace of Christ be multiplied to you
and through you, now and forever. Amen.



*Ann Campbell
June 2021*

POSTLUDE

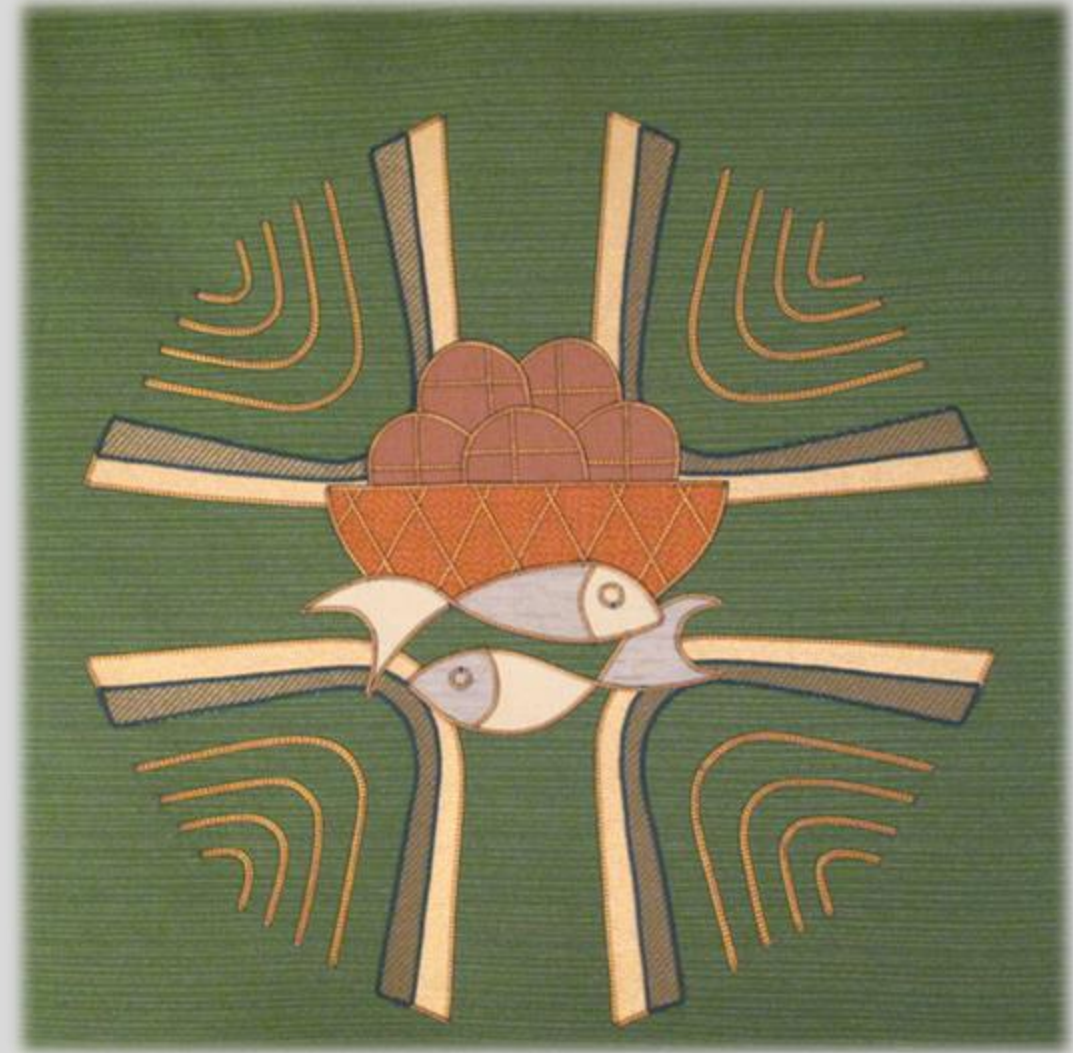
God of Grace and God of Glory

John Hughes/arr. Mary McDonald

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

The disciples were amazed at Jesus' feeding of the multitudes.

How have you seen him make a way when there was no way?



Loaves and Fish

Catholic Chapel, U. S. Air Force Academy 1962
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Thanks to:

Presider: Rev. Peter Norland

Musician: Susie Byykkonen

Greeters: Nancy Byers Sprague, Dianne Sprague

Reader: Greg Campbell

Prayer Writer: Jim Northey

Coffee: Judy Albee, Sangja Lee

Communion: TBD

Special Music: Paul & Christine Seitz, Ann Campbell

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Portage Lake United Church

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) & UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Rooted in the Trinity. Growing in God's Word.
Branching out to those in need. Nourished by many waters.