



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Pentecost 13 August 23, 2015

Taste and See that the LORD is Good

4 part sermon series based on the Feeding of the 5000 and Bread of Life Discourse

- 7/19 Taste His Abundance and See that He is Good (Mk. 6)
- 8/2 Taste His Bread and See that He is Good (Jn. 6:22-35)
- 8/16 Taste His Grace and See that He is Good (Jn. 6:35-51)
- 8/23 Taste His Word and Say that He is Good (Jn. 6:51-69)

A Service of the Word

Setting from WS p.12 – Service of Word and Sacrament, Setting 2
TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

Preservice Devotion: TLH 366 (red hymnal), *One Thing's Needful; Lord, This Treasure*

OPENING HYMN

TLH 296 (red hymnal)

Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congreg. (C) Amen.

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, My Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy on us.
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest *Luke 2:14; Revelation 5:8-14*

C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray, ... one God now and forever,

C Amen

FIRST LESSON

Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.² And Joshua said to all the people, ...

¹⁴ “Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! ¹⁵ And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side

of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

¹⁶ So the people answered and said: “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷ for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. ¹⁸ And the Lord drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God.”

RESPONSIVE PROVERB *responsively* from Proverbs 9; John 6:68

M Wisdom has built her house, She has hewn out her seven pillars; She has slaughtered her meat, She has mixed her wine, She has also furnished her table. She has sent out her maidens, She cries out from the highest places of the city, “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”

C **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

M As for him who lacks understanding, she says to him, “Come, eat of my bread And drink of the wine I have mixed. Forsake foolishness and live, And go in the way of understanding.”

C **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

M “He who corrects a scoffer gets shame for himself, And he who rebukes a wicked man only harms himself. Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you.

C **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

M Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

C **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

GOSPEL LESSON *rise if able*

John 6:51–69

⁵¹ I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

⁵² The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us *His* flesh to eat?”

⁵³ Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.

⁵⁴ Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. ⁵⁶ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.

⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.”

⁵⁹ These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

⁶⁰ Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this*, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”

⁶¹ When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. ⁶⁵ And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”

⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

⁶⁸ But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

M Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Luke 11:28

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

John 20:31

CREED ~ The Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From there He will come to judge

the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

TLH 366:1,4,5 (red hymnal)

One Thing's Needful; Lord This Treasure

SERMON ~ based on today's Gospel lesson

John 6:51–69

4 part sermon series: “Taste and See that the LORD is Good”

Taste His Word and Say that He is Good

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:7*

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir-it free.

HYMN

WS 775:1-5 (tan hymnal)

Thy Strong Word

GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Almighty and Everlasting God, You are worthy to be worshiped and respected by all people.

We thank You for the many blessings You have given us.

We aren't worthy and don't deserve it;

still, You have blessed us both temporally and spiritually.

We especially praise You that You have preserved Your pure and saving Word and Sacraments.

And we pray, O Lord: preserve and extend Your Kingdom of Grace among us.

Grant to Your Holy Church throughout the world pure teaching. Bless us with pastors who preach Your word faithfully.

Help all who hear to understand and believe.

Send forth laborers into Your harvest,

and open the door of faith unto all unbelievers and also unto Your people.

In mercy, remember the enemies of Your Church,

and lead them to repentance.

Be the Protector and Defender of Your people in every tribulation and danger.

Grant us fellowship and unity together with all who believe that we might fight the good fight of faith unto the end.

And, at last, receive us into Your eternal salvation.

Protect and prosper everyone in his appropriate calling,

and cause all useful arts to flourish among us.

Give all people, and especially Your children,

an appreciation of the blessings of marriage and family.

Be the God and Father of the widow and widower,

and of the children who have been deprived of father or mother.

Be the Helper of the sick and the needy,

and the Comforter of the forsaken and distressed.

Receive the service and talents with which Your children serve You,

as well as the offerings which we today bring as fruits of faith.

(Special Requests)

O Lord, we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth;

so help us to grow in faith, and to live a godly life as we await the peace of the new creation.

According to the various gifts You have given,

grant us a spirit of service within Your Church and toward one another.

When our last hour is come support us by Your grace,

and through the merit of Your Son Jesus Christ receive us into everlasting life.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son, and our Lord and Savior

Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, One God forever and ever.

In His name we join to pray:

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; And 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!

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

M The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

WS 775:6 (tan hymnal)

Thy Strong Word

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Welcome! We wish a warm welcome to our guests this morning. It is our mission to share the good news that God gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him has eternal life (John 3:16-17). May that good news go with you. Feel free to sign our guest book in the entry way. For more information about our church see the visitor comment cards and brochures in the entry way or visit our website at AscensionBatavia.org. We hope to see you again!

Participating in this Service of the Word

Music: S. Libby Lead Usher: G. Libby
Minister: Pastor D. Pfeiffer