

Prelude
Call to Worship

Mateo Garcia-Novelli, Soloist
James Cook, Pianist

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

(Pastor) Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

(People) Amen.

Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin. God and Father of all,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, + you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”

Hymn No. 520

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

(Together) **Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Teaching Moment

Children’s Sermon

First Lesson

Proverbs (9:1-6)

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. ²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. ³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, ⁴“You that are simple, turn in here!” To those without sense she says, ⁵“Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

After the reading:) The word of the Lord. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

Reading Responsively– Psalm 34: 9-14 (Lector and People)

- ⁹ Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.
- ¹⁰ **The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**
- ¹¹ Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you reverence for the LORD.
- ¹² **Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**
- ¹³ Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.
- ¹⁴ **Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

Second Lesson

Ephesians (5:15-20)

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading:) The word of the Lord. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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

Holy Gospel

John (6:51-58)

(Spoken after the announcement) **R/ Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹ “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.” ⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

(Spoken after the reading) **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor David Echelbarger

Hymn of the Day

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

Hymn No. 658

Prayers of Intercession

With confidence in God's compassion and generosity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

(After each petition:) Lord, in your mercy, ... **hear our prayer.**

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R/ And also with you.

MEAL**Offering**

Special Music

Pick-Up Choir

Offering Prayer

(Together) **God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, merciful Lord... Be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Traditional

Invitation

Jesus said, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." All are welcome.

Lamb of God

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Distribution

We invite all baptized Christians and visitors of all denominations, even the youngest, to the table of the Lord. Children who desire a blessing rather than receiving the bread and the wine should stand with folded hands to indicate their preference. Please follow the ushers' directions to one of several communion stations in the sanctuary. If you need to have the sacrament brought to your pew, please inform an usher. Receive the wine or indicate a preference for grape juice by asking the server or pointing to the center of the tray.

Distribution Hymns

"Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal"

Hymn No. 464

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

Hymn No. 488

Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

R/ Amen.

Prayer after Communion

(Together) **Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life. Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbor and call others to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction

Almighty and merciful God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve, and keep you
this day and forevermore.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“By Your Hand You Feed Your People”

Hymn No. 469

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John’s gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John’s gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord’s supper, but here we can’t help hearing Jesus’ words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.