**July 25, 2021 – Order of Worship**

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – Food for All

**Music While You Wait**

Welcome, Announcements, Joys & Concerns Todd Siefker

**Intergenerational Coordinator**

**Prelude “Organ Piece in G Major” Michael Danner** by Adolph Hesse

**Call to Worship**  **Ruth Holder**

**Worship Leader**

One: We join together as hungry eaters

to be nourished by the food that you offer us.

**All: God of sustenance, give us this day our daily bread.**

One: As you care for the wheat fields that turn into bread

and the vineyards that labor to produce sweet wine,

tend to our bodies by feeding us what we need for healthy growth.

**All: God of abundance, give us this day our daily bread.**

One: The rich crops that you have prepared are now ready

to be harvested by our hands and our hearts

**All: Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

One: Holy Chef, may we savor the dishes that you have prepared for us this

day. With each bite of your holy feast, enliven our senses so that we may

delight in the and tantalizing flavors you have created.

**Confession**

One: Great Provider, we recognize that widespread hunger is no longer necessary.

**All: You have given us humans the resources to feed all people,**

**yet we are selfish.**

One: While we overfill our bellies with food

and lay to waste the spaces needed for crops to flourish,

others are crying out for crumbs from our tables.

**All: Living God, cultivate within our hearts reckless generosity,**

**and plant within us spirits of simplicity and balance**

**in body and soul.**

*(Moment of silence and reflection)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

One: Though at times we fail to be generous, your generosity toward us is

never-ending! By sending Christ and the Spirit to your people,

you have extended generosity beyond measure. Let us now do the same

by greeting each other with a sign of peace.

**Gathering Hymn #276 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”**

Holy God, we praise thy name; Sovereign God, we bow before you;

All on earth your scepter claim, all the heavenly hosts adore you.

Infinite your vast domain, everlasting is your reign.

Hark, the glad celestial hymn angel choirs around are raising;

Cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising.

Fill the heavens with joys aflame: holy, holy is your name.

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.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you,

While in essence truly one, undivided God we claim you;

So we gather reverently to adore the mystery,

**Listening to the Still Speaking Word**

**Old Testament Lesson – 2 Kings 4:42-44 Ruth Holder**

**Worship Leader**

A man came from Baal-Shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, “Give it to the people and let them eat.” But his servant said, “How can I set this before a hundred people?” So he repeated, “Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, ‘They shall eat and have some left.’” He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

**Prayer of Illumination #283 “Spirit of the Living God”**

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

**Lesson from the Gospels – John 6:1-21 Ruth Holder**

**Worship Leader**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” Jesus said, “Make the people sit down,” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come to the world.”

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea was rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

**Prayer of Illumination #283BH “Spirit of the Living God”**

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

**Message:**

**“The Earth Series: Being a Quixotic Christian who Takes on Ecological Challenges with only 2 Fish and 5 Loaves of Bread.”**

**Todd Siefker Intergenerational Coordinator**

**Hymn of Reflection #531 “God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”**

God, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;

as you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.

O lead me, God, that I may lead some wanderers along life’s way;

O feed me so that I may feed your hungry ones without delay.

O fill me with your fullness, God, your overflowing love to know;

In glowing word and kindling thought, your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, God, use even me just as you will, and when, and where,

until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

**Responding to God with Our Lives**

**Call for the Offering Ruth Holder**

**Worship Leader**

Jesus said, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” As we have been granted great abundance, let us offer up those blessings in God’s name.

**Offertory “Andante in D Minor”** **Michael Danner**  by George Frederic Handel

**Dedication Ruth Holder**

**Worship Leader**

God of wonders, who enabled Jesus and Elisha to feed the multitudes,

bless these gifts and use them to fill empty stomachs and empty hearts.

May our offerings be multiplied to abundantly nourish all the people.

**Parting Hymn #403 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”**

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ love and righteousness;

I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

**Refrain:** On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;

all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

When shadows veil my Savior’s face, I rest upon unchanging grace;

In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

**Refrain:**

Christ’s oath and covenant and blood support me in the rising flood;

When all around my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay.

**Refrain:**

When Christ shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Love be found,

Dressed in God’s righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

**Refrain:**

**Benediction Ruth Holder**

**Worship Leader**

God’s love is overwhelming! As we have been fed this day, let us go and offer food and drink to others. Grant us holy instincts of faith as we trust in you,

O God, to place the final touches on our culinary masterpieces. **Amen.**

**Postlude “Prelude and Fughetta in A minor” Michael Danner**

by Johann Pachelbel

**“Food for All”: Service Prayers for the 9th Sunday after Pentecost** was written by the Rev. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi, Iliff School of Theology, CO.

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