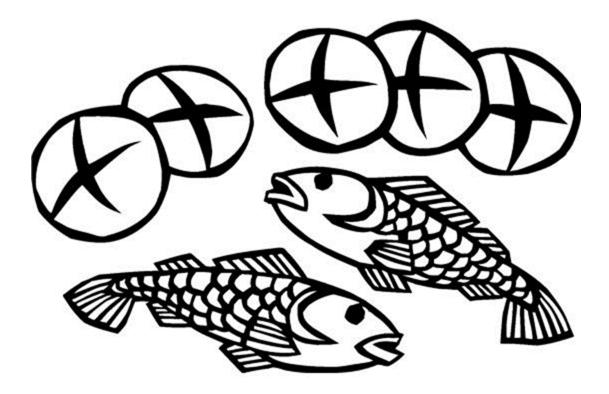
Moxham Lutheran Church 500 Park Avenue Johnstown, PA 15902



The Rev. Rebecca S. West, Pastor

pastor@moxhamlutheran.org Office phone: (814) 539-8664 office@moxhamlutheran.org Website: www.moxhamlutheran.org

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

July 28, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Introducing Today's Readings

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

Preservice Music

Welcome

Prelude

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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 turn? 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.

ELW 461

Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn: "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"



Greeting

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, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

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

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44

⁴² A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, 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." ⁴³ 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." ⁴⁴ He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 145:10-18 (read responsively)

- ¹⁰ All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.
- ¹¹ They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,
- ¹² that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.
- ¹⁶ You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- ¹⁷ You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.
- ¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶ I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷ and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸ I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation





Gospel: John 6:1-21

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ² A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.

³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When 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?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?"

¹⁰Jesus 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. ¹¹Then 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. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

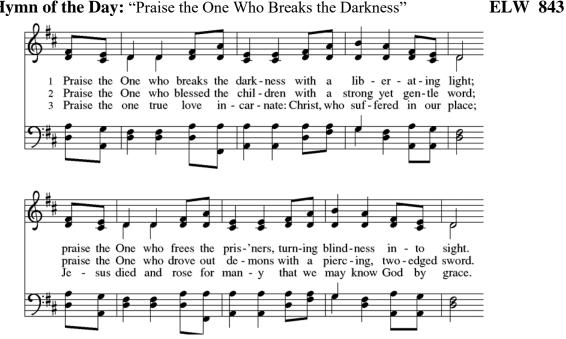
¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

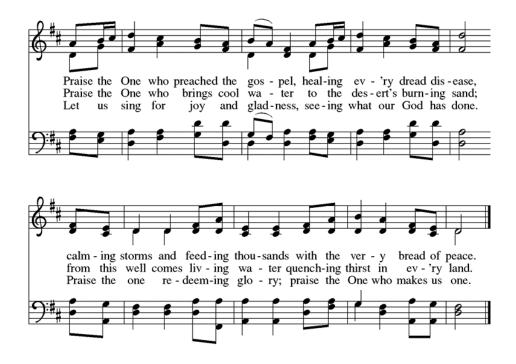
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Hymn of the Day: "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



Apostles Creed

Together with the whole church, We confess the Triune Faith into which we were baptized.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

God of generations, you work in us far more than we can ask or imagine. Bless the church you have called into being across time and space and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of field and forest, streams and seas, you are the fullness of all things. As grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God beyond borders, you rule all in all. Bless the work of humanitarians and peacekeepers, shield those who live, work, or serve in harm's way, and who endeavor to bring an end to war and conflict in Gaza and the Ukraine. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of healing, you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We remember any who are sick or suffering: families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, and our beloved who are suffering or are ill, especially.... In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of love, prepare our hearts and minds for new beginnings. Surround us with gratitude and love in this season of change so that we can sense your presence in our lives. In your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with others.

Offering Song: "We Come to the Hungry Feast"



Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

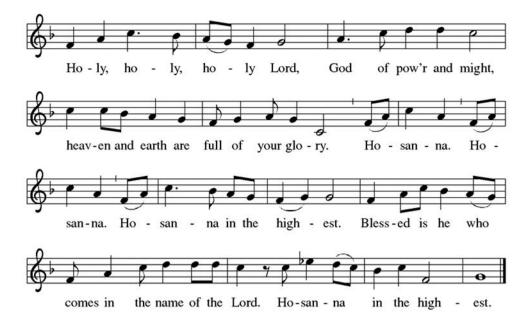
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Thanksgiving at the Table

Gracious and Loving Father, you sent to us your Son, Jesus Christ, the bread of life to satisfy our deepest hunger, and you drew us to him that we might learn from him and celebrate the eternal life you have prepared for us.

Our Lord's Words of Institution.

We remember that when the world turned against him, he gave himself up, in the fullness of love, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to you for the life of the whole world, so that we and all who place our trust in him might feed on his real presence in this Sacrament. And so, provide for us now a foretaste of the life you have prepared for us. Through him all glory and honors is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your Holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

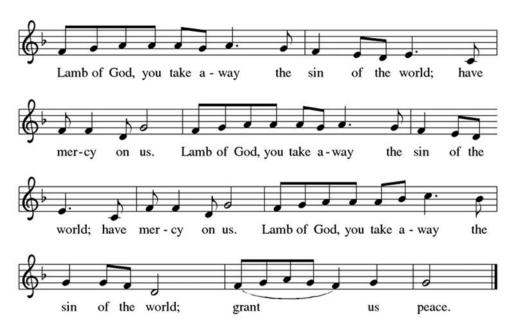
Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Lamb of God

ELW p. 146



ELW p. 145



Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table

more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,

now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

Farewell and Godspeed to Jeanne Fleegle

Sending

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

Blessing

The blessing of God,

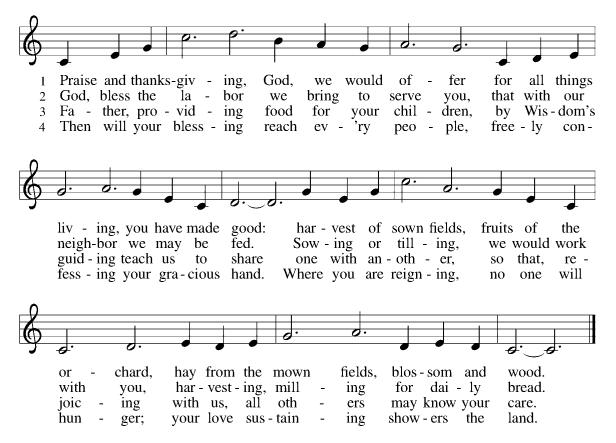
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,

+ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: "Praise and Thanksgiving"

ELW 689



Dismissal

Together, we go into the world sharing God's word, serving others, growing in Faith, practicing stewardship as a way of life.

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006929. + New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. + Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. + Permission to reprint the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-712707.