



+ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 15, 2021

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
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Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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+ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Order for Worship

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat bread and drink 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 cannot help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

A few notes on precautions and protocols, which apply to everyone regardless of vaccination status, as St. Andrew returns to worship in the sanctuary:

- Name and contact information will be recorded for all worshipers in attendance in case the need for contact tracing should arise.
- Face masks that fully cover both your mouth and nose are required at all times for everyone over the age of two (2) – the only exception being the brief moment of moving mask aside to partake in Holy Communion.
- Outside food and drink are thus not permissible during worship.
- Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet will be observed at all times for people not from your household.
- We invite the congregation to voice responses and prayers during worship. A cantor will sing the hymns with a mask on, and the rest of the congregation is encouraged to follow along silently.
- We ask that everyone use hand sanitizer, either your own or from the bottles throughout the sanctuary, especially prior to Holy Communion.

Worship Services are live streamed to multiple online platforms. By attending worship, you agree your image and voice be broadcast.

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering

Please rise as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundant grace,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,
come to the help of your people.
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.

P: 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.
Through Jesus, ✝ the Bread of Life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
C: Amen.

*We ask that those present in the church sanctuary refrain from singing the hymns aloud.
The assembly gathered from afar is encouraged to sing!*

Gathering Hymn

Beloved, God's Chosen

ELW 648

- 1 Beloved, God's chosen,
put on as a garment
compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart.
Above all, before all,
let love be your raiment
that binds into one every dissonant part.**

- 2 Within, call forth Wisdom,
to dwell in you richly;
let peace rule your hearts,
and that peace be of Christ.
And from the heart's chamber,
beloved and holy,
let singing thanksgiving to God ever rise.**

- 3 Beloved, God's chosen,
put on as a garment
compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart.
Above all, before all,
let love be your raiment
that binds into one ev'ry dissonant part.**

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953. Music: ANDREW'S SONG, Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962. Text © 1994, Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading – 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.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Ephesians 5: 15-20

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

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation (*Spoken*)

P: Alleluia. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me
and I abide in them. Alleluia.

Gospel – John 6: 51-58

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: 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.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Humanity and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Please rise as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

We Eat the Bread of Teaching

ELW 518

Refrain

**We eat the bread of teaching,
drink wine of wisdom,
are given here a taste of the kingdom.
Together joined, the greatest and the least,
we all are one at Wisdom's holy feast.**

- 1 Wisdom calls throughout the city,
knows our hunger, and in pity
gives her loving invitation
to the banquet of salvation. *Refrain***
- 2 Simple ones whose hearts are yearning,
come and gain from Wisdom's learning;**

bread and wine she is preparing,
know her loving in the sharing. *Refrain*

- 3 Enter with delight and singing,
for her richness now is bringing
us this joyful celebration;
eat and drink in jubilation. *Refrain*

Refrain

We eat the bread of teaching,
drink wine of wisdom,
are given here a taste of the kingdom.
Together joined, the greatest and the least,
we all are one at Wisdom's holy feast.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997. Music: WISDOM'S FEAST, Jerry Ray Brubaker, b. 1946. Text and music © 1998 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Suite 400, Franklin Park, IL 60131. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

Prayers of the People

P: Fed by the abundance of Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit,
we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition

P: Receive our prayers, O God,
C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God; confident in the promise of your saving love;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

*Please be seated while the table is being prepared.
We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.*

*An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary
for those who would like to offer gifts as you leave worship today.*

Meal

Please rise as you are able.

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray.

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 for others what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...
... and join their unending hymn.

Sanctus

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ...

... be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

Fraction and Invitation

Agnus Dei / Lamb of God

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Holy Communion

- *For Holy Communion, we will not be kneeling at the altar rail due to the need for physical distancing.*
- *At the invitation of the usher, worshipers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.*
- *The Communion bread/wafer is in small cups on the left side of the altar table as you come forward. Cups of wine (lighter liquid) and grape juice (darker liquid) are on your right.*
- *A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament, following physical distancing guidelines.*
- *Everyone is asked to wait until you return to your place to consume the wafer and wine/grape juice, and then promptly replace your mask.*
- *Worshipers can place the paper cups in the receptacle by the door at the back of the sanctuary as they leave through the Centre and Morewood Ave. vestibule.*

Hymn during Holy Communion

Following Page

Hymn during Holy Communion

O Living Bread from Heaven

ELW 542

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,
how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given
have filled my heart with rest.
O wondrous food of blessing!
O cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
in thankful song o'er flows.**
- 2 My Savior, you have led me
within your holiest place,
and here yourself have fed me
with treasures of your grace;
for you have freely given
what earth could never buy,
the bread of life from heaven,
that now I shall not die.**
- 3 You gave me all I wanted;
this food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted
the cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit
the favor you have shown;
and all my soul and spirit
bow down before your throne.**
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened
with heav'nly food, while here
my course on earth is lengthened,
to serve you, free from fear;
and bring me home to praise you
where none can peace destroy,
where I will ever raise you
glad songs in endless joy.**

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt. Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876.

When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.

Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

Prayer

P: Let us pray.
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.
C: **Amen.**

Sending

Benediction

P: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God!**

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Prelude and Hymnody

Cantor

Lector

Audiovisual Ministers

Director of Faith Formation

Presiding Minister

Lily Cai, Piano

Richard Krug

Kelly Spaninger

Dave Rollinson

Christopher Atwood

Christopher Atwood

Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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