

Worship Plan for Sunday, August 12, 2018

Lectionary 19

Proper 14

12th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting One

Sunday, August 12, 2018

Introduction to the day

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:4-8

The reading may be announced:

A reading from 1 Kings.

First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal. The contest proves that the Lord is God, and afterward Elijah orders the killing of the Baal prophets. Angered by the deaths of her prophets, Queen Jezebel threatens to kill Elijah. This reading finds Elijah fleeing, fatigued, and in utter despair.

⁴[Elijah] went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now,

O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.”⁵ Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, “Get up and eat.”⁶ He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again.⁷ The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, “Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.”⁸ He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

The reading may be concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-8

Taste and see that the LORD is good. (Ps. 34:8)

¹ I will bless the LORD | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.

² **I will glory | in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice.

³ Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God’s | name together.

⁴ **I sought the LORD, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors. R

⁵ Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.

⁶ **I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.

⁸ **Taste and see that the | LORD is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God! R

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:25--5:2

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Ephesians.

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The reading may be concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 6:35, 41-51

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

³⁵ Jesus said to [the crowd,] “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

⁴¹ Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴² They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” ⁴³ Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day.

⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’

Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶ Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 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.”

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Lord God, we pray for the whole church. Sustain all who have tasted the bread of heaven and found solace in the promise of eternal life. Teach us to forgive one another in love and build each other up. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord God, save and protect your creation. Feed, nourish, and encourage all living creatures, and teach us to practice faithful stewardship. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord God, you rule the nations. Lead all people to speak truth and kindness to one another, walking in the paths of justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord God, we pray for those in need. Comfort those who mourn, encourage the fearful, and tend the sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Lord God, we pray for those gathered here today. Feed us well so that the difficult journey of life may not be too much, and sustain us through times of trial. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord God, we bless you for the lives of those faithful ones who have gone before us. Raise all at the last day, that we may exalt your name together. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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