



**Online Worship Resource** (Sunday, February 7, 2021)

**BOLD TYPE IS SPOKEN BY THE CONGREGATION**

Prelude: : ***Break Thou the Bread of Life*** Arr. Gilbert Martin  
(Piano and organ duet)

*Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.*

*Beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord. My spirit pants for thee, O living  
Word!*

*Bless now the truth, dear Lord, now unto me, as thou didst bless the bread by  
Galilee.*

*Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall.*

*And I shall find my peace, my all in all.*

Jane Kerr, Organist and David Maley, Pianist

Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship**

Ernest Amankwah, Liturgist

Please join me in the responsive Call to Worship:

We are called to belong,

**not just to believe.**

We are called to be joined together,  
**bound together,**  
held together,  
**fitted together,**  
members together;  
**one with each other, together in Christ.**  
**We are the Body of Christ. Thanks be to God!**

Before we sing the opening hymn, God invites us to come. Let us say these words together:

Come from wilderness and wandering,  
Come from restlessness and roaming,  
Come from loneliness and longing.  
Come!

**Opening Hymn:** "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering, Here, in truth, we have been fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here is joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing, Here in peace we have been led.  
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal, taste and see that God is good.

## Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Pastoral Prayer

## Children's Time

## Prayer for Illumination

(Liturgist)

Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word by praying together the Prayer for Illumination:

**Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove: open our ears to the truth of your word, that the unity and love of Christ may be strengthened among us. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon    A Cross-Shaped Life: Unity at the Table    Rev. Michelle Fincher

## **Hymn after Sermon:** "Come to the Table of Grace"

Come to the table of grace, Come to the table of grace,  
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace....

Come to the table of love....

Come to the table of joy...

Call for offering

(Liturgist)

God gives us not only life, but the new life born of the Holy Spirit at work in us bringing unity, love, peace, and grace. Therefore, with thankful and generous hearts, let us share a portion of what has already been given to us, that others might also be blessed. Please pray with me our prayer of dedication...

### **Prayer of Dedication**

**Great, redeeming God, you have gathered us from many backgrounds and conditions to be one people, united in love. May our gifts be used to further the peace and unity of your church, that we might bear witness to your good purposes for all creation. Amen.**

## **Sharing the Lord's Supper**

Call to Confession

The God who is always present invites us to open our hearts and be honest as we come to this table of grace. Trusting in god's mercy, let us confess our sins together, saying:

### **Prayer of Confession**

**O God, you call us into unity with one another. You urge us to end the divisions among us. How is this even possible! With fists clenched and jaws set, we grip tightly our perspectives and opinions, ready for battle with any who would challenge us.**

**We confess that we worship the god of Being Right. Desperate to belong somewhere, we claim allegiance to tribes of our own making - tribes of doctrine, of politics, of social location. Our quarrels reach your ears, and even as we stammer out our excuses, we know it is not your way.**

**Your way is excellent. Your way is relationship, discipleship, neighborliness, servanthood. Your way transcends the dim substitutes we create. And your way seems impossible for us to imagine.**

**But help us to imagine it, O God, as we come to the table. Let the fellowship we have while here continue when we leave the table. Help us to imagine sitting down together and breaking bread. Let the magnanimity we feel and express here go with us to be shared with all.**

**Imagine it for us, gracious God. Imagine it within us. Show us how to drop the nets, filled with our meager catch, which we clutch to ourselves - our paltry security, our self-made identity. Teach us to share. You have a better identity in mind for us. Make us into your fishers of people. Or perhaps, we must simply allow ourselves to be caught by you first. Empower us to be one community, a tangle of faults and foibles, yet held in your net of grace. This is your way. We long for it, too, and ask for you to transform us that we might receive and then share it.**

**Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

**Take to heart the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ there is forgiveness and mercy.**

**Forgiven, let us forgive others and open our hearts to the joy of life anew as one, united people. Alleluia! Amen.**

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.....**

(Sanctus)

**...Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!**

**My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!**

Prayer after Communion

Benediction

Postlude: **God Be with You Till We Meet Again**

*God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again; unseen wings protecting hide you,  
daily manna still provide you: God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.*

Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Michelle Fincher, Jane Kerr, organist, Judy Viccellio, guitar,  
David Maley, piano, Ernest Amankwah, liturgist, and Glenn Fahrig,  
technology team