



I AM THE
BREAD
OF LIFE

*Bread that Gives
Wisdom and Life*



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*I Am the Bread of Life—
Bread that Gives Wisdom and Life*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Gracious Spirit, bless me today in worship with wisdom from your Holy Word and faith in Jesus my Savior. Turn me from the empty philosophies of man to your eternal truth. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: People can debate which physical diet is best, but no one can deny that whatever your diet, you are going to die. No matter how heart-healthy your food is, your heart is going to stop eventually. But in his Bread of Life discourse, Jesus teaches us that he offers food that enables us to live forever. There are foods you might never have tasted if someone didn't have to convince you to try it. Likewise, this spiritual food that Jesus describes is something no one finds appealing at first, but distasteful. Today Jesus explains that we need God to work within us, so that we have the wisdom to see that this food gives life and the faith to find this bread most delicious.

WORSHIP SERIES: Jesus had fed thousands and cured hundreds, surrounded by crowds. But then we find in John 6, "From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him." What had Jesus done that was so bad? He said, "I am the bread of life." Bread is a staple food that people eat every day (especially in Jesus' day). In this worship series we examine what Jesus is teaching when he calls himself "the bread of life." We discuss why people would abandon Jesus for making that claim, and we wrestle with whether we would ever do the same.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor Jon Enter

Piano: Paige Reiners

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + www.salemlutheran.org + 651-439-7831

church@salemlutheran.org

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Four



Hymn: Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

CW 528 sts. 1-2, 4



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, food for bod - y,
4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, watch - ing all your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
food for soul; Christ, the man - na, dai - ly giv - en,
lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, you
nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, light and life you bring to all; light our
food of heav - en, fore - taste of the feast to be; quench our
Shep - herd, seek us, find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with your own pres - ence, grant us grace to heed your call.
thirst with liv - ing wa - ter spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
God, our shep - herd, keep us; let us hear your voice a - lone.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father,**

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn: Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

CW 528 sts. 5-6



5 Christ, the way that leads un - fail - ing to the Fa - ther's
6 Christ, the Al - pha and O - me - ga, Christ, the first - born



home on high; Christ, the truth that frees the cap - tive,
from the dead; Christ, the life and res - ur - rec - tion,



Christ, the life that can - not die; me - di - a - tor
Christ, the Church's glo - rious head: praise and thanks and



to the Fa - ther, sac - ri - fice and great High Priest: lead us
ad - o - ra - tion and un - end - ing wor - ship be to the



to your heav'n - ly man - sions, there to share your wed - ding feast.
Fa - ther and the Spir - it and to you e - ter - nal - ly.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6

In this poetic reading, spiritual wisdom is personified as a kind woman. Lady Wisdom invites us to dine on that spiritual food that empowers us to truly live.

- ¹Wisdom has built her house;
she has set up its seven pillars.
- ²She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
- ³She has sent out her servants, and she calls
from the highest point of the city,
⁴“Let all who are simple come to my house!”
- To those who have no sense she says,
⁵“Come, eat my food
and drink the wine I have mixed.
- ⁶Leave your simple ways and you will live;
walk in the way of insight.”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day: LORD, I Must Praise You

Psalm 111A

The following is a hymn-style paraphrase of Psalm 111.



1 LORD, I must praise you when I stand in won - der at your
2 Noth - ing but good you give to those who fear you; ev - er
3 You sent your peo - ple long - de - sired sal - va - tion, mak - ing



might - y works and splen - dor. There is no oth - er God, no
near those who re - vere you. To you the hun - gry come for
us a bless - ed na - tion. You are the rock: on you our



one a - bove you, yet so close to those who love you.
dai - ly feed - ing, and the poor for jus - tice plead - ing.
hopes are found - ed; safe we dwell, by love sur - round - ed.



O Lord, have mer - cy! All your works de - clare your maj - es - ty
O Lord, have mer - cy! All your deeds are hon - est and sin - cere;
O Lord, have mer - cy! Make us wise to fol - low in your ways,



in an end - less grand dox - ol - o - gy; e - ven more would I praise
all your vows as true as they ap - pear. Per - fect love, rar - est kind,
and re - ceive our sac - ri - fice of praise. We are yours, yours to use



your com - pas - sion, love, and grace. O Lord, have mer - cy!
all I need in you I find. O Lord, have mer - cy!
for your dream as you may choose. O Lord, have mer - cy!

Please stand.

Gospel

John 6;35-51

Jesus declares that anyone wise enough to eat the bread of life will live forever.

³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. ³⁷All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."

⁴¹At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

⁴³"Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered. ⁴⁴"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. ⁴⁶No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Speak, O Lord

CW 633



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights



of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it
true hu - mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the



deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pu - ri - ty,
dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.



that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your



fill in us all your pur - pos - es for your glo - ry.
nev - er fail, let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

Sermon Text

Hebrews 11:31

³¹By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

"Loving God is Number One!"

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

M: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

C: **Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

M: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

C: **Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

M: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

M: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

M: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

M: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

M: Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn: Christ the Eternal Lord

CW 521 sts. 1-2



1 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, whose prom - ise here we claim,
2 Christ the un - chang - ing Word to ev - 'ry pass - ing age,



whose gifts of grace are free - ly poured on all who name your name;
whose time - less teach - ings still are heard set forth on Scrip - ture's page;



with thank - ful - ness and praise we stand be - fore your throne,
trans - form our thought and mind, en - light - en all who read,



in - tent to serve you all our days and make your glo - ry known.
with - in your Word by faith to find the bread of life in - deed.

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Monthly WELS Connection Video

Youth Rally Thank You Presentation

Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry.
Adult Bible study begins at 10:15 in the sanctuary

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: I Am the Bread of Life: The Only Food We Really Need.

Bible Readings: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18, Hebrews 11:24-28, John 6:51-69

Hymns: 606, 631, 826, 932

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

For our guests

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

For those with young children

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

