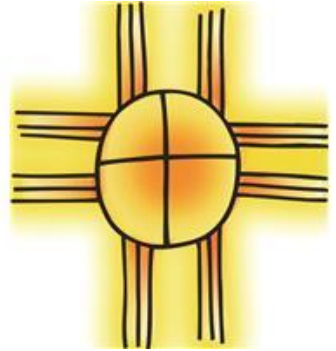


Cross of Christ and Cannon River Lutheran Churches

Faithful Through Generations

August 15, 2021



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

PRELUDE

Organist: Jeff Rudi

Welcome and Announcement

OPENING HYMN

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

ELW#858

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

L: Sisters and brothers, bear with one another in love, maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy and gracious God, **we confess that we have not led a life worthy of the calling to which we have been called. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not acted according to your will. Have mercy on us. Forgive us according to the riches of your grace and make us holy and blameless before you in love. Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **Amen.**

GREETING & KYRIE

ELW p. 203

L: 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.**

**1. Have mercy on us, Lord,
and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word;
it saves us from despair.**

**3. Have mercy on us, Lord;
make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r;
create in us new hearts!**

**2. Have mercy on us, Christ,
and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole
that new life may begin.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW p.204

**1. Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exult you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**2. Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**3. Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

L: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom 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.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

Be 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p.205

C: Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

THE GOSPEL

John 6:51-58

The holy gospel according to John. **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 Man 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.”

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Deacon Todd Portinga

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

ELW#515

***THE APOSTLE’S CREED: 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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. 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 again 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 THE CHURCH (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.)**

***The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

***LORD’S PRAYER: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION: May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine on you and be gracious to you. May God look on you with favor and give you peace. C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

ELW#551

***L: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*(*Please Stand)*