

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021**

*REMINDER: We have regathered for in person worship each Sunday at 10 am, and no reservations are needed. For those not ready to return, the livestream continues on our YouTube Channel*

### **MESSAGE FROM ROBIN+**

St. Augustine is attributed with saying “John’s Gospel is deep enough for an elephant to swim and shallow enough for a child not to drown.”

For the next five weeks we are going to take a deep dive into the sixth chapter of the Gospel according to John. Why is that, you may ask, when Lectionary Year B uses the Gospel of Mark? Good question! We have a three-year cycle of readings that focus on our synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). Synoptic means “seeing together” since so much of what is in these three gospels is so similar. Mark, as the oldest of the three, is the partial source for the writers of Matthew and Luke, along with their own additions, and all three also borrow from another source we call the Q Document – a mysterious document yet to be found!

This all sounds great, but it leaves out the Gospel of John, which was written a bit later than the other three. Our lectionary includes John in particular places each year, especially during the season of Lent, but in Year B we get five weeks of John in the middle of summer. You might think it’s all about the bread, but if we look more deeply we will see that it is telling us something about who Jesus is. I encourage you to take time to read the whole of chapter six and notice what you discover about Jesus as John portrays him.

There are many things in John’s Gospel that are different, many stories unique to John alone, and in this Gospel we see Jesus as more divine, less human than in the synoptic gospels. John has its own following of scholars and readers who love it for just this reason (including your priest) and so from time to time the lectionary gives us some readings from the Gospel according to John to fill in gaps and enrich our understanding of Jesus and the community that followed him.

Each week the sermon will focus on the Gospel according to John. Also, our first lesson will be the psalm appointed for the day. We have not been using a psalm regularly since the start of the pandemic, so it will be nice to hear a psalm each week.

As we move into the fall months, we hope to return to a more traditional worship format, with all readings and congregational singing of hymns. I know we will all rejoice in this!

Until then, let us feast on the Bread of Life!

## **PRAYER LIST**

We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying. Especially we pray for James Christiansen, Thomas Clark, Shannon Farthing, Melba Felty, Kathy Hackett, Rod Hale, Robin Jane, Heydon Lewis, Shelley Richardson, Mark Sheffield, Mary Villeponteaux, David and Wyitt.

## **HANDOUT**

Jesus took the loaves,  
and when he had given thanks,  
he distributed them to those who were seated;  
so also the fish, as much as they wanted  
—John 6.11

He handed it out,  
miraculously multiplying a handful of bread  
into enough for five thousand,  
miraculously multiplying a handful of time  
to be present one at a time  
for all five thousand.  
As much as they wanted.

He stands before you,  
looks into your eyes,  
says your name,  
and hands you this moment  
blessed, and given to you.

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Steve Garnaas-Holmes  
Unfolding Light  
[www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)

## **THE COLLECT**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Psalm 145:10-19** *Exaltabo te, Deus*

- 10 All your works praise you, O LORD, \*  
and your faithful servants bless you.
- 11 They make known the glory of your kingdom \*  
and speak of your power;
- 12 That the peoples may know of your power \*  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- 14 The LORD is faithful in all his words \*  
and merciful in all his deeds.
- 15 The LORD upholds all those who fall; \*  
he lifts up those who are bowed down.
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, \*  
and you give them their food in due season.
- 17 You open wide your hand \*  
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.
- 18 The LORD is righteous in all his ways \*  
and loving in all his works.
- 19 The LORD is near to those who call upon him, \*  
to all who call upon him faithfully.

### **John 6:1-21**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.