

Willow Springs Worship October 4, 2020

Call to Worship:

L: The Bread of Life comes among us.

P: What or who is this Bread of Life?

L: It is none other than Jesus Christ, God's beloved Son!

P: We hunger for the true bread that will nourish our souls.

L: Come then, to Christ who feeds us with his very life!

P: We come, needing sustenance and nurturing. AMEN

Song

Prayer of Confession: It is easy for us to go through the motions of spirituality. We want to say the "right" prayers, and think that we have found the magical key to make holiness appear in our lives. But we are empty, Lord. We hunger and thirst for something that will sustain us through all the times of our lives. We chase after things that will disappoint and hurt, and look past the very thing that will heal and cleanse our lives. Help us to stop running after the glitz and glitter, the easy path. Help us to look truly for you, the one who will quench our thirst and nourish our souls. Bring us to you, with our open and repentant hearts, for your loving care. As we receive the amazing gift of bread and juice, remind us that you nurture and feeds us with your own life.

Words of Assurance: Christ is your Bread of Life, the Manna from Heaven, which was and is sent to feed and sustain us in all the wildernesses through which we travel.

Song

Children's time

Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17, John 6:41-58

Sermon: Holy God - Communion Union

Song

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

Offering/song

Announcements

Benediction: The Bread of Life comes and feeds us.

Jesus said, "Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me."

Now journey into God's world,

nourished and nourishing others,

bringing God's love, hope, joy and peace.

Amen.

Announcements:

Today is World Wide Communion Sunday. We remember with billions of other people around the world what the Lord has done for us all!

MCC School Kits: Consider putting together a **school kit** or purchasing materials to add to a school kit to be shared in different places around the world.

Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction: Cal plans to take in week three and four this week and next through Zoom. Pray for learning and growth for all involved.

Next Sunday, **Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler will be preaching.** Karla is the Executive Director of Hungry World Farm.

Hungry World Farm Outdoor Open House - October 17, 2 to 4 pm.

* * *

Matthew 3:13-17 The Baptism of Jesus

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15 Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. 16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

John 6:41-58

41 At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They 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. 45 It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' [a] Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. 46 No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. 47 Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. 50 But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. 51 I 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." 52 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" 53 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. 54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. 56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

Nature of Holy - Interpreters Bible Dictionary, "to describe [God's] mysterious nature, but common to all is an awareness of an undefined and uncanny energy, ... of the imponderable and incomprehensible, an inarticulate feeling of a potency outside and beyond, removed and distant, yet at the same time near and fascinating, invading our everyday world of normal experience."