

Pentecost 9, July 25, 2021, **Order of Worship**

Announcements, Concerns, Joys

Call to Worship Today's call to worship is from the historical book of 2nd Kings (4:42-44). When the prophet Elijah was swept up into heaven in his chariot, his successor Elisha continued to perform miracles. In our text Elisha gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, and God provides enough and even more to satisfy the need. How can we not worship such a gracious and giving God? (pew Bible p. 576)

***Confession and Forgiveness** (from *Sundays & Seasons*, 2020 Augsburg Fortress, p. 198)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin: God, our provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God, *in* Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. *By* Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. *Through* Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* (vv 1, 3, 4) LBW 494, ELW 696, HP 293

Kyrie

LBW p. 78

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

***Prayer of the Day** Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven, and may share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from Ephesians, the 3rd chapter (3:14-21)

pew Bible, p. 1820

We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit (*Sundays & Seasons*, 2020, p. 229, Augsburg Fortress). [After each reading: "The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**"]

***Alleluia!** *Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!*

***Gospel** **John 6:1-21**

Before the gospel: *Glory to you, O Lord!*

After the gospel: *Praise to you, O Christ!*

Sermon

***Hymn of the Day** *The Church of Christ in Every Age* (vv 1,2,5) LBW 433, ELW 729, HP 1777

The Apostle's Creed

LBW p. 85

***The Prayers of the Church** (Response to "Hear us, O God" is "your mercy is great.")

***The Lord's Prayer**

***Benediction**

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

LBW 333, ELW 767, HP 1677

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ!

Thanks be to God!