

Worship Service ~ *Eat the Bread Set Before You*

25th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B,

10th November, 2024

John 6:41-59 / Mark 8:1-26

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, my name is [say your first name]. It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

Please stand with me, if you're able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship

One: I will always sing of your steadfast love, O LORD;

All: I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

One: I will tell them that your steadfast love never fails;

All: It is more sure than the heavens.

One: You said, "I will establish Christ's Kingdom forever, and build his church for all generations."

All: And so we are here, and we will praise him!

Invocation

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful through change and uncertainty. We pray that we would trust in your word, and courageously persevere in worship and love.

This morning as we seek your presence, may we enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee ~ 71

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ John 6:41-59

41 So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” **42** They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” **43** Jesus answered them, “Do not grumble among yourselves. **44** No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. **45** It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— **46** not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. **47** Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. **48** I am the bread of life. **49** Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. **50** This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. **51** I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” **53** So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. **54** Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. **55** For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. **56** Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. **57** As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. **58** This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” **59** Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up? Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer (responsive) Prayer by pastor

To close out the prayer, we will recite the Lord's Prayer together:

One: ...We pray as the Lord taught us:

All: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen."

Hymn Spirit of God! Descend ~ 502 (v1,3-5)

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Mark 8:1-26

In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, **2** "I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. **3** And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away." **4** And his disciples answered him, "How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?" **5** And he asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." **6** And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. **7** And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before them. **8** And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. **9** And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. **10** And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. **12** And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, “Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation.” **13** And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

14 Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. **15** And he cautioned them, saying, “Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” **16** And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. **17** And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? **18** Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? **19** When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?” They said to him, “Twelve.” **20** “And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?” And they said to him, “Seven.” **21** And he said to them, “Do you not yet understand?”

22 And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. **23** And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Do you see anything?” **24** And he looked up and said, “I see people, but they look like trees, walking.” **25** Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. **26** And he sent him to his home, saying, “Do not even enter the village.”

Sermon ~ *Eat the Bread Set Before You*

Rev. Jonny Finlayson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Welcome to the Table of the Lord (*Responsive Reading*)

One: God shows his love for us

All: in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

One: Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life;

All: whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Pastor: The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26: "For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

All: *The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.
(everyone eats their bread)*

All: *The cup which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.
(everyone drinks their cup)*

Prayer

Oh God of our journey, you have led us to the living water, to the bread of life, to the wine of Christ's redemption joy. Refresh and sustain us with this feast as we go out from here; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Communion Hymn Eat This Bread ~ 471 (Sing 2x)

Call to Serve

Consider the bread and wine, the body and blood. There is no one who has ever loved you one as much as Jesus loves you. He tells you this:
"Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence."
This is the most important law to live your life by.
But there is another also: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.'
This week - every moment will be an opportunity to either obey or disobey Jesus. He loves you. Stay close to him. He'll lead you; where is he calling you?

A Time for Reflection

Played by church musician Annie Center,

Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross ~ 259

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Short prayer by pastor

Postlude

played by church musician Annie Center,

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