



51B PENTECOST 11B ONLINE LITURGY

Life without limits

Abstract

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.
John 6:49-50

Jim de Jong
jim@dejongs.id.au

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 19:4–9

⁴ while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵ Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." ⁶ He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

⁷ The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." ⁸ So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. ⁹ There he went into a cave and spent the night.

GOSPEL

John 6:35, 41–51

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

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.’ 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.” ii

RESPONSE

For the word of the lord

Thanks be to God

51B Pentecost 11B Online Liturgy

Life without limits

Sunday, August 8, 2021 | After Pentecost | Proper 14 | Year B

Old Testament & Psalm, Option I

Old Testament 2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15, 31–33

Psalm Psalm 130

or

Old Testament & Psalm, Option II

Old Testament 1 Kings 19:4–8

Psalm Psalm 34:1–8

New Testament Ephesians 4:25–5:2

Gospel John 6:35, 41–51ⁱⁱⁱ

Supplementary 1 Kings 19.4-8

Jesus describes himself as the ‘bread of life’. This causes consternation among the Jewish crowd. There is a very real sense of disbelief that the son of a local carpenter could do anything other than follow the family trade, and certainly not talk about having come from heaven. Jesus explains his claim and compares himself to the bread that their ancestors and Moses received in the desert.

When Jesus gets caught up in this ‘Q&A’ session with the crowd, he can see that they are constrained by their history and by what they think they know about him. He tests the limits of their thinking by offering something radical and new. How might we have responded to his words?

This week we explore the assumptions we carry with us.

	Pre-Service
	Introit TIS #745 – “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” - 3 verses
	Greeting May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ The Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all and also with us
	We Gather When we journey with God, anything is possible: we are challenged to push our limits. When we walk closely with Jesus, anything is possible: we are reminded that everyone has their own story to tell. When we welcome the Holy Spirit, anything is possible: we are invited to share in the bread of heaven that always satisfies. Acknowledgements <i>Let us pray</i> Lord God, you have the bread of life for the hungry

	<p>and living water for the thirsty. We come hungry and thirsty for your word, with a desire to know your will and to love with your unconditional love. Help us to be fed and to learn from you. Amen.</p>
	<p>We say Sorry When we make wrong assumptions about others and judge the way they live: forgive us, Lord, for limiting people and possibilities.</p> <p>When we don't allow others to speak out and be the people you have called them to be: forgive us, Lord, for limiting people and possibilities.</p> <p>When we cast judgements on communities or neighbourhoods that are different from ours: forgive us, Lord, for limiting people and possibilities.</p> <p>Let us journey together towards wholeness and healing, knowing that only God can sustain us and set us free. Amen.</p>
	<p>Words of Assurance Giver and sustainer of life, through the power of the cross we are a forgiven people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, chosen by you who has called us out of darkness into your marvelous light. Our sins are forgiven</p> <p>Thanks be to God Amen.</p>
	<p>Hymn TIS #414 – “There’s a spirit in the air” TIS #474 – “Here in this place/Gather us in” TIS #474 – “Jesus calls us here to meet him”</p>
	<p>Welcome</p>

	<p>God's unlikely heroes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who would you choose to do God's work? • Who does God choose? • Here are two lists. The first is a list of biblical characters whom God called to do special things or who appear in stories/parables as special people. • The second list describes the unlikely characteristics of those people. <p>Jonah a man who ran from God. David an adulterer and murderer. Rahab a prostitute. Moses a murderer and a stutterer. Noah a drunkard. Abraham an old man who doubted. Samson arrogant and immoral. Peter afraid to own up. Timothy too young. Martha worried about everything. Zacchaeus too small. Lazarus dead!</p> <p><i>Let us pray</i> Bread of life, complete sustainer, provider of all that we need, we come before you – seeking you, believing and trusting – so that we may never hunger and thirst again. Amen.</p>
	<p>Readings</p> <p>Gospel John 6:35, 41–51 Jesus the Bread of Life</p> <p><i>respond</i> For the word of the Lord Thanks be to God</p>
	<p>Hymn/Song TIS #476 – “Jesus calls us here to meet him”</p>
	<p>Response</p>
	<p>Hymn/song TIS #145 (AHB 81) – “The king of love my shepherd is” TIS #609 – “May the mind of Christ my Saviour”</p>
	<p>Offering OFFERTORY SENTENCE: God loves us and calls us to live our lives deeply, with openness, joy and generosity</p>

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

For the gift of our life,
for the gift of your love,
for the gift of the world,
we thank you.

May everything we give
come from the depth of our lives.
May our giving make us live fully
and love deeply in your world
and may this money be a part
of releasing that world for everyone.
Amen.

Notices

Jesus told His followers
that whoever comes to Him will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in Him will never be thirsty.
We still live among those who are hungry and thirsty
for bread and water and who also seek you.
In a world full of misinformation and false assumptions,
we pray for help to live in response to His promises,
and to show His love more clearly,
that He may be found in us.

Prayers for all people

Lord God, there are so many people who need
the difference in their lives that only you can bring.
Lord, sometimes we feel so useless
when faced with all the needs of our world.

We forget the important part we play just by opening our lives to you,
praying to you, and being your hands and feet.

We pray today for our families, our friends, our peers, our teachers.

**Help us to share
through our prayer
and through our care.**

We pray for everyone who has helped us grow closer to you;
for our church family, and our ministers.

Help us to share...

We pray for our community, the world in which we live and work and have our
being.

Help us to share...

We pray for people who feel they have nothing to share, nothing even to live for;
the homeless, prisoners, people at the end of relationships, the sick and those who
mourn.

	<p>Help us to share through our prayer and through our care. Amen.</p>
	<p>Lord's Prayer Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.^{iv}</p>
	<p>Hymn/song TIS #658 – “I, the Lord of sea and sky” TIS #649 – “Kneels at the feet of his friends” TIS #650 – “The servant song (Brother sister let me serve you)” TIS #686 – “Lord Jesus, we belong to you”</p>
	<p>We are sent out</p> <p>Thank you, Lord, for believing in us, for seeing beyond our outside and knowing who we really are inside. Thank you for giving us all we need to do your work, even when others may tell us we are ‘only’. Thank you, Lord, for calling us to be adverts for you, so that others can see that you also believe in them. Amen. May the Lord bless us and keep us May His face shine upon us and be gracious to us May he lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace</p>
	<p>Benediction Shalom TIS #779 – “MAY THE FEET OF GOD WALK WITH YOU”</p>
	<p>Thank you</p>

ⁱ [*The New International Version*](#). (2011). (1 Ki 19:4–9). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

ⁱⁱ [*Revised Common Lectionary*](#). (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.

ⁱⁱⁱ [*Revised Common Lectionary*](#). (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.

^{iv} English Language Liturgical Consultation, 1988.