

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

Laetare, The Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Bread of Life

22 March 2020

* Indicates the congregation may stand

The Versicles & Gloria Patri

Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forevermore, Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault in thought, word and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Grant, we beseech You, Almighty God, that we who deserve to be punished for our evil deeds, may mercifully be relieved by the comfort of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

The Epistle: Galatians 4:21-5:1

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, "*Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband.*"

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. But what does the Scripture say? "*Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.*" So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

The Holy Gospel: St John 6:1-15

Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. And a large crowd was following Him, because they saw the signs that He was doing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat down with His disciples. Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. Lifting up His eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward Him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" He said this to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough 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 for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. Jesus then 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. And when they had eaten their fill, He told His disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. When the people saw the sign that He had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

Perceiving then that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by Himself.

A Hymn

#263 – Jesus, Priceless Treasure

v. 1, 4, 6

The Sermon

The Responsory

O Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy upon us.

O Lord Jesus, seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

O Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy upon us.

Arise, O Christ, and help us.

And deliver us for Your name's sake.

Our Father...

The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ, bright Sun of the world: Shine upon my spirit and drive away the night of sin, that I may walk in Your holy light all my life and even forevermore.

Amen.

The Canticle

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of Your faithful people, and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of Your faithful people, and kindle in them the fire of Your love.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
Who made heaven and earth.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Lord Almighty order this day and all our doings in His ☩ peace.

Amen.