



**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 9, 2009**

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Worshippers may wish to light a votive candle in memory of a loved one or for meditation. This may be done at any time before or during the liturgy except during community prayers, readings or homily. Since the number of candles is limited and to avoid mishaps, parents and caregivers are asked to be attentive when allowing children to light one.

INTRODUCTION

Jesus says that the bread he gives for the life of the world is his flesh, and whoever eats this bread has eternal life now and will be raised on the last day. In Ephesians Paul tells us what this life Jesus gives us looks like, this life we live as those marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit in baptism. We live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. The whole purpose of life is giving yourself for the other.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN #553 “*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*”

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15, 31–33

This reading describes some of the troubles in King David’s family. His son Absalom has amassed an army and seized David’s throne. Those loyal to David fight Absalom’s forces and defeat them. David himself is chiefly concerned about the well-being of his son, even though that son has betrayed him.

⁵The king ordered Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "Deal gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king gave orders to all the commanders concerning Absalom.

⁶So the army went out into the field against Israel; and the battle was fought in the forest of Ephraim. ⁷The men of Israel were defeated there by the servants of David, and the slaughter there was great on that day, twenty thousand men. ⁸The battle spread over the face of all the

On Saturday, August 15, at 5:30 p.m. we will have a special "Picnic on the Patio" event to mark the 18th birthday of Dmitri Lennikov. Some info to note about the evening:

Everybody attending is asked to bring their own food and drinks. . .plus a little extra to share with others who may have forgotten to bring something or who show up at the last minute empty-handed. **And to be more specific, please bring some kind of chicken: BBQ'd, roast, fried, broiled, spicy buffalo wings, etc.** We can then put out all the extra pieces of chicken so folks can sample a bit of this and that.

To keep from having to wash dishes afterward, everyone is asked to take their own dishes home dirty. I mean, really, your mother doesn't live here so you'll have to wash your own dishes. And to prevent burning out of those who worked so hard to set up, serve and cleanup after the July 17 BBQ, we need a batch of new volunteers to help with some of the set-up and ALL of the clean-up. So, please don't come expecting someone else to do clean up after you. (As mentioned above, your mother doesn't live here).

Sign-up sheets (and the exact start and finish time) are posted in the upstairs entryways and near the coffee pot downstairs, or if you are planning to attend and willing to help in some way, you are invited to phone the church office and leave a message with that information. Thanks much.



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

#492 “Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have rained down the true bread from heaven, the body and blood of your beloved Son. So by his promise bring us to abide in him, and he in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN #542 “O Living Bread from Heaven”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to bear Christ’s love to the world. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Our thanks to **Pastor Ken Harris** and **Deborah Bartlette** for leading our worship while Pastor Hergy is away.

Please check out our newly constructed website at www.firstlutheranvancouver.com to find out information about our worship, service and life, recent bulletins. Also, for those who are interested, follow Mikhail’s blog (a kind of electronic diary) at mikhailennikov.blogspot.com

Picnic Lunches

Thanks to Jackie Cleroux there will be a picnic lunch on Thursday, August 13.

Thanks to **Catherine Mountain** for filling in for our Minister of Music, Jeanette Price, who is finishing up her holiday.

Next Sunday, August 16, we will celebrate the birthdays of those born in August. This particular day will be a special one because a clown will be performing during the coffee hour. So, all children are invited to join in the festivities (even if your birthday isn't in August).

country; and the forest claimed more victims that day than the sword.

⁹Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. His head caught fast in the oak, and he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on. ¹⁵And ten young men, Joab's armor-bearers, surrounded Absalom and struck him, and killed him.

³¹Then the Cushite came; and the Cushite said, "Good tidings for my lord the king! For the LORD has vindicated you this day, delivering you from the power of all who rose up against you." ³²The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" The Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up to do you harm, be like that young man."

³³The king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; and as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Response after reading: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:25—5:2

Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.

²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Chapter 5

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Response after reading: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 6:35, 41–51

After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.

Response after announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Response to conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY *#496 "One Bread, One Body"*

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

Let us pray for God's anointed people, especially for members of the church throughout the world, and for all who make great sacrifice for the sake of the gospel. (*silence*) God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all of creation: for animals and plants, for prairies, mountains, and wetlands, for farmland and for city streets. (*silence*) God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the human community throughout the world: for those who teach or heal or feed; those who clean, fix, or build; for those who invent, beautify, or delight. (*silence*) God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who suffer disaster, violence, or abuse; those who suffer with addictions, disorders, or depression; those who suffer from grief, despair, or illness, *especially...* (*silence*) God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the concerns of our own hearts, for the needs of our congregation, friends, and families, *especially...* (*silence*) God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Let us give thanks for all who have died, *especially...*, entrusting them to God's love. (*silence*) God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, you are near to us when we cry out to you. Into your embrace we commend all for whom we pray, through Christ and by the power of your Spirit. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, you open the doors of heaven, giving us every generous and perfect gift from above. Lift our eyes from the food that perishes, and nourish us now with the food that endures for eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (Prayer over the gifts)

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.

FRACTION

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**



It is Christ himself who invites all the baptized members of God's family — and all our guests — to come to his table where he gives his body and blood, along with the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation under the forms of bread and wine. After receiving the bread into the open, upraised palm, all may drink from the first (common) cup or, if desired, have an individual glass filled from the second (pouring) cup.