

Worship with Communion

August 2, 2026

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen



Jesus Feeding the 5000
The Hagia Sophia

Opening Sentences

- God's love and grace welcome us here. Christ's bounty feeds us at his table.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

We come, carrying just what we need for the journey:

five loaves, two fish.

We come, bringing whatever we have to offer:

our time, our talent, our gifts.

We come, knowing God will multiply our offerings:

in God's hands, what we have is enough.

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

Prayer of the Day

God of grace and mercy,
we call on you, knowing you will answer.
Show us your steadfast love.
As we gather together,
give us our food in due season,
and satisfy the desire of every living being,
that we might know more fully
what it is to be your people. Amen.

Call to Confession

When we call upon God,
God answers.
Even when our steps stray
from God's path,
even when our feet slip,
God listens to us
and answers our prayers.
Let us offer our prayer of confession.



Prayer of Confession

**God of justice and mercy,
we admit that we are not always free of deceit.
We are fooled by the false promises of the world
into pursuing things that do not truly nourish us.
Hear our cry and save us, dear God,
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

God is gracious, merciful, and abounding in steadfast love.
Hear and trust in the good news of the Gospel:
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Act of Praise Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 1

GG #526

Let us talents and tongues employ;
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!



Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all. / **And also with you.**

Nicholas Markell
Loaves and Fishes

Life of the Church

Prayer for Illumination

Providing God,
by your Holy Spirit, feed us with your Word,
that we might be filled with the bread of life. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowd heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away;

you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.”

¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

from The Confession of 1967

**Life is a gift to be received with gratitude
and a task to be pursued with courage.**

**People are free to seek life
within the purpose of God:
to develop and protect the resources of nature
for the common welfare,
to work for justice and peace in society,
and in other ways to use their creative powers
for the fulfillment of human life. (9.17)**

Hymn

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

GG #498

Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.

Jesus, Bread of Life from heaven, was their food forevermore.

Refrain: By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,

Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Loaves were broken, words were spoken in a quiet room one night.

In the bread and wine you gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.

Refrain

Loaves are broken, words are spoken, as in faith we gather here.

Jesus speaks across the ages: “I am with you; do not fear!”

Refrain

By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger, words that tell your love and care.

Refrain

Invitation to the Offering

We know what God can do
with the smallest offering.
We know that God transforms our gifts
into abundance for all in need.
Trusting in this miracle,
let us bring our tithes and offerings.

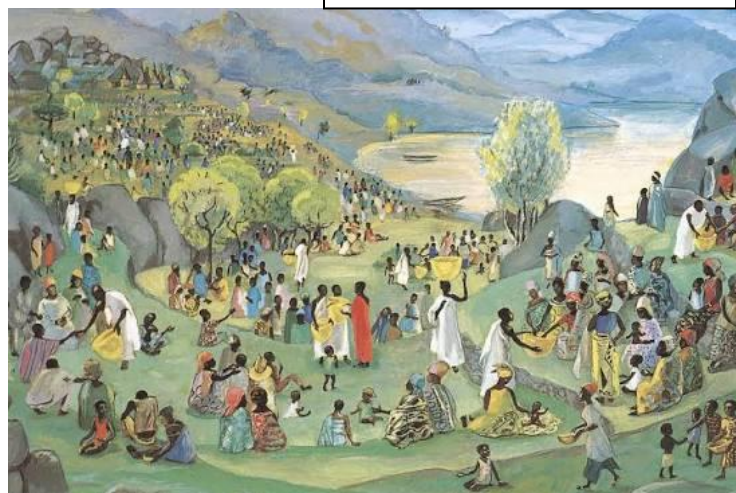
Today we are also receiving gifts to the Power of Hope fund, which provides assistance to members of this faith community.

Offertory

Act of Dedication Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 2 GG #526

Christ is able to make us one;
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again;
earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around:
loaves abound!

Jesus MAFA
Jesus Multiplies the Loaves and Fish



Prayer of Dedication

Loving and generous God,
you provide for us and
bless us in more ways
than we can number.
We give these tithes and offerings
to tell of your wondrous and steadfast love
so that those who do not yet know you
may also come to your love. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

When we worry that there will not be enough –
that the need is too overwhelming,
that we cannot muster the energy
or the resources to do what must be done –
we gather here – at God's table.

Christ's table is set with plenty.
There is always enough to go around.
What we bring is enough,
because Christ uses it in ways we could never imagine.
Let us remember that in Christ
there is always enough.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God:
You have made an everlasting covenant with us,
the promise of your faithfulness and steadfast love.
Even when we struggle against you, you never let us go.
Therefore, we praise you, joining the song
of the universal church and the heavenly choir:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior:
You sent Jesus to show the abundance of your love.
With five loaves and two fish he fed a multitude;
still he feeds us with the extravagance of his grace.

Remembering your goodness and grace,
we offer ourselves to you with gratitude
as we share this joyful feast.

As we receive this holy meal,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup;
make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.
As you love and bless your chosen people, Israel,
let your church be a sign of Christ's blessing and love,
calling all people into your gracious covenant.
Through the Lord Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Spirit,
we bless you, God of glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

Let us pray together as Christ has taught us, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Sharing Bread and Cup

The Sacrament is Carried Beyond the Sanctuary

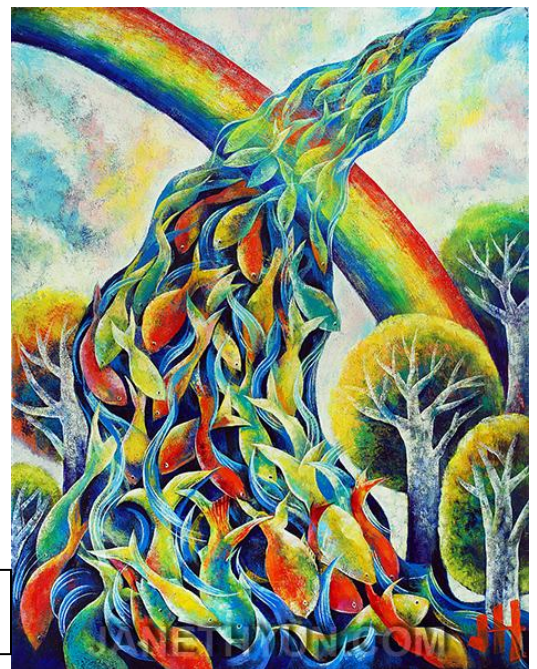
We send you out with this bread and cup
to share the feast of the risen Lord.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.**

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, thank you for inviting us
to your table where all are welcome.
You have fed us with the bread of life
and quenched our thirst with the cup of blessing.
As you have filled our lives with love and hope,
may we be a source of your love and hope
for others who hunger and thirst
for good news. Amen.

Janet Hyun
Trust in God's Promises



Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 3 GG #526

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Postlude

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell

Dana Friedman

Beverly Avila

Hector Naranjo

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