



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship June 21, 2026 9:30am
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

*The prelude, the first act of worship, sets the tone for what is to follow.
So, we invite you as worshipers to gather, to transition from your busy lives
into a sacred place of communion with God and with each other. – Dr. Kimo Smith, adapted*

PRELUDE

“My Boat Is Small”
Carrie Devries, piano

Allen Pote

*In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a
contemplative “amen.” Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.*

WELCOME

Rev. Karen Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come, all who hunger and thirst.

ALL: We come seeking the Bread of Life.

ONE: Bring what you have—your gifts, your hopes, your questions.

ALL: In God’s hands, small offerings become abundant blessings.

ONE: Jesus welcomes the crowds with compassion and feeds them with grace.

ALL: We trust in God’s provision and give thanks for God’s abundance.

ONE: There is enough in God’s kingdom for all to share.

ALL: Let us worship the God who fills our lives with goodness and love.

LORD'S SUPPER

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509

1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

We cling tightly to what we have, fearing there will not be enough. We overlook the needs of our neighbors and doubt God's ability to provide. Yet Christ invites us to bring what we have and trust in God's grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

Generous God, you have blessed us with more than we can count, yet we live as though there is never enough. We hold tightly to our time, our resources, and our compassion. We overlook the gifts you have placed in our hands and doubt that they can make a difference. Forgive us when fear shapes our choices more than faith; when we ignore the hunger of our neighbors — for bread, for justice, for kindness, for hope. Take what we offer, however small it may seem, and use it for your purposes. Teach us to trust in your abundance, to share with joyful hearts, and to follow Jesus, the Bread of Life, who feeds the world with grace. In his name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The God who fed the multitude with five loaves and two fish is the same God who pours out mercy without measure. God's grace is greater than our fear. God's love is stronger than our failures. God's abundance is sufficient for every need. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: **And also with you and all others!**

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Kings 4:42–44 (NRSVue)

Keith Langabee

A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord: They shall eat and have some left." He set it before them; they ate and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 6:1–14 (NRSVue)

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread 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 among so many people?” Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus 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. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL WORSHIP PRESENTATION

TABLE FOR FIVE... THOUSAND!

by Tom S. Long & Allen Pote

“My Boat Is Small”

Joy! Singers

“Jesus Is Coming”

Summer Choir

“Come If You’re Weary”

Summer Choir

“One Road”

Celebration! Singers

“Be Humble as a Child”

Summer Choir

“The Miracle”

Celebration! Singers

THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND

“Small Things”

ALL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY

"Come If You're Weary"
Carrie Devries, piano

Allen Pote

Sending

*HYMN 526

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

LINSTEAD

LORD'S SUPPER

526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:




Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used. 

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

POSTLUDE

“Small Things”
Carrie DeVries, piano

Allen Pote

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

Special Thanks

We are grateful to everyone who helped bring *Table for Five...Thousand!* to life during worship this morning. Special thanks to our children, youth, and adult singers, readers, actors, musicians, directors, and volunteers for sharing their time and gifts.

Accompanist: Carrie DeVries

Stage Direction: Beth Lillian

Musical Preparation: Carrie DeVries, Linda Bruns, Cindy Schendel

Celebration! Singers Director: Pam Kelly

Joy! Singers Co-Directors: Emily Hussey and Hilary Schmidt

“Miracle” Preparation: Kevin Johnson

Cast

Benjamin: Liam Hussey

Family: Conor Schesser and Caitlin Hussey

Mary from Magdala: Mallory Hearn

Zacchaeus: Eloise Dixon

Andrew: James Schmidt

Voices from the Story: Laura Johnson, Riley Savage, Conor Schesser

Disciples: Kamden Frye, Magnolia Sellers, Lara Schesser, Jim Kelly, Rob Schendel, Cindy Schendel

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