Bread for the Journey

Both of my grandfathers wore overalls. Both of them raised dairy cows, and also farmed wheat, corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and most other crops grown here in central Kansas. Needless to say, they had a keen understanding of where the food that we eat comes from, and the work involved to have simple items like a loaf of bread and a glass of milk on the supper table. They worked hard to pass on an understanding of this world to their families.

My dad's dad drove home this point to me one time. He loved to fish. One Saturday morning after he and I had gone fishing, he said, "Come with me, Alan, you're going to learn something today." He then took me to the barn where he taught me how to clean and gut a fish from start to finish—from flopping in a bucket of water to ready for the frying pan. Then he said, "I showed you this because I want you to know what it takes for us to eat today, and that to have this means a creature had to give its life so we could eat." It was a life lesson I will never forget.

When Jesus says, "I am the bread of life," he is reminding his audience of two essential facts of a faithful life. First, they should not forget that the food which sustains their bodies ultimately comes from God. Second, God provides life not only for their bodies, but for their souls as well. May we always remember that true life requires sustenance for the body *and* the soul. We need physical bread *and* spiritual bread for the day's journey. Let us never forget that God is the source of what sustains us for a life of faith.

> —Alan Stucky Wichita, Kansas

Text for today: "So [the crowd] said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." 'Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus 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' " (John 6:30-35, NRSV). Bible readings for today: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15; Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35 (35).

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I am the bread of life



Please be mindful of those who are meditating as we prepare for worship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Here I Am to Worship/O Worship the King" arr. Tornquist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

- Leader: Welcome, followers of Jesus Christ! Welcome to worship!
- Cong: We have come here to be reminded of Christ's call in our lives.
- Leader: We are also reminded that Christ proclaimed the "good news" he taught, healed, showed compassion and welcomed everyone into God's family.

All: Let us do the same!

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

As we come into your presence, remind us of what we are about as your disciples. Give us your compassionate and welcoming spirit for all the days ahead of us. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN "We Have Come Into His House" Red 64

OFFERING MEDITATION From Malachi 3:10 "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need." Let us give of our tithes and offerings this day. The offering plate is located at the rear of the sanctuary for your convenience.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING SHARING WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN Pastor Dick (Children may come forward.) SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

| CALL TO PRAYER | "Sweet Hour of Prayer" | " Red 515 | |
|--|------------------------|-------------|--|
| MORNING PRAYER | | | |
| SHARING OUR GIFTS | | Angie Ruth | |
| SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24 Pew Bible page 566 | | | |
| MESSAGE | "God Knows" | Pastor Dick | |
| *HYMN OF SENDING | "The Wonder of it All" | Red 93 | |
| *BENEDICTION | | | |
| Leader: Let us go now, fully assured of God's love for us. | | | |

All: Let us love others because God first loved us! Amen and Amen.

Let us honor God's Presence with us as we listen to the postlude.

*POSTLUDE Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You" arr. Labenske *Please stand if you are able.

Thank you to Angie Ruth for sharing her musical gift with us this morning.

We welcome each of you to our service today. We especially welcome any <u>first time visitors</u> and encourage you to fill out a pink card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate after worship today!

Please make sure you have permission from individuals to share their names during joys and concerns or for placing in the bulletin. Thank you.

Personalized activity bags for children are available in the narthex. Handicap restrooms are available. Hearing devices & large print bulletins are also available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

| Ministers to All | The Congregation |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Preacher | Pastor Dick Godfrey |
| Music Director/Pianist | Roxie Schloyer |
| Head Usher | Roger Bollinger |
| Deacon of the Month/Welcomer | Pat Conrad |
| Bulletin Board | |
| | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS - Please follow CDC guidelines for wearing a face mask inside the building. We have pews at the front of the sanctuary for physical distancing. Offering plates are at the back of the sanctuary to place your offering.

Church Secretary Hours - Please note that Suzanne will be in the office Mondays through Thursdays 9 AM to 1 PM. The church office will be closed on Friday, August 6 when Pastor Gerry is on vacation. If you have a need, please call your deacon.

Women's Fellowship Fun Event, Thursday, August 12, 5 PM in the fellowship hall. Main course and drinks provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

Chicken BBQ fundraiser for The Friends of Cross Keys Village on **August 14** will be a drive-thru service. Please pre-order your meals on line or with a printable order form at **www.crosskeysvillage.org/ chicken by August 4**.

Children's Church - Christian Ed Commission is looking for volunteers to share a story, craft or games with children aged 3 through 4th grade during the worship service (children are dismissed after the children's story.) Please volunteer to Melissa Godfrey, Michael Lawrence or Natalie DeRita.

Children's Church Splash Event on **Sunday, August 15** during worship service. Bring a towel and your swimsuit.

Glow, Youth & Connections Groups will meet on Sunday, **August 15** following worship for lunch and a joint 9-square fun event.

Annual Conference Reporting - Sunday, August 15, 9 am.

Pastoral Search Committee values your opinion. Please pick up a survey form from your mailbox and complete and return by **Sunday, August 15.**

Backpack Blessing - Sunday, August 22. Children and youth are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship to bless them as they start a new school year.

Church Yard Sale - September 25. Please do not bring any items until **Sunday, August 22 at which time you must place them on the stage behind the curtain.** Large items such as furniture may not be delivered until the week of September 19.

Address Change: Jake Berwager - Room 444, 2100 Utz Terrace, Hanover, PA 17331, Phone - 717-646-4174

Thank you for all the birthday cards and gifts. - Esther Brown

Outreach Commission thanks everyone who donated blood. We collected 33 pints to help save 99 lives. Also thanks to everyone who helped with school kits. We were able to donate 50 school kits.

Please Uplift in Prayer

Names will be listed for 2 weeks unless ongoing concern.

Homewood at Plum Creek: Jewel Amspacher - Room D142 Nancy Mummert - Room C105 Fay Swartz - Room E342 Hanover Hall: Esther Brown - Room 219 John Paul Fike, Sr. - Room 126A Charlie Sell - (717-634-1125 cell) Country Meadows: Bonnie Berwager - Apt. 311 Spring Creek Rehab: Sonja Bankert Utz Terrace: Jake Berwager - Room 444 Dean Brodbeck - Room 523A Evelyn Dickensheets - Room 422 Normandie Ridge Sr. Living: Norma Becker - Room 122A Paramount Sr. Living: Mae Hamme

Shut ins: Miriam Mills, Dale Sullivan

Others: Fran Smith, Leiland Smith, Larry Beard, Amber Shaw, Diane Swavely, Dan Ahlers, Scott Little, Lois Worley

Church Activities This Week Pastor Gerry continues on vacation this week

| I astor ocri y continues on vacation this week. | | |
|---|---|--|
| Sunday, August 1 | Sunday School - 9 АМ | |
| | Worship with Pastor Dick Godfrey - 10:30 AM | |
| Monday, August 2 | Barbershop Chorus - 6:45 РМ | |
| | AlAnon - 7 pm | |
| Tuesday, August 3 | АА - 8 рм | |
| Friday, August 6 | Church Office Closed | |
| | АА - 6 рм | |

Upcoming Events

| Sunday, August 8Sunday School - 9 АМ | |
|--|--|
| Worship with Sharon Hershey - 10:30 AM | |
| Monday, August 9Соттисти Commissions Meet - 6 РМ | |
| Church Board Meets - 7 РМ | |
| Saturday, August 14 Chicken BBQ at TBHC/CKV - | |
| Thursday, August 12 Women's Fellowship Fun Event - 5 РМ | |
| Sunday, August 15 Annual Conference Reporting - 9 AM | |
| Children's Splash Event - 10:30 AM | |
| Glow, Youth & Connections Groups Joint Activity - noon to 2 PM | |
| Information due for September Newsletter | |
| Monday, August 16 PAL at HACC | |
| | |

Our Faithful Stewardship - July 25, 2021

Attendance:Sunday School - 23Worship - 63Giving:General Fund \$ 1,972.11Building Repair Fund \$ 20Mowing \$ 20School Kits \$ 30Fellowship Hall Sound System \$ 3,500