

Sunday August 2, 2020  
Grace Presbyterian Church, Midland, Texas  
*for worship at home*

### To prepare

It is our tradition at Grace to celebrate Holy Communion together on the first Sunday of the month. We will be together in Christ's Spirit as we break the bread and drink from the cup in our individual homes this Sunday. Before you begin worship, gather bread (any kind of bread or crackers) and juice/wine (any kind).



If there are children in your home, ways to include them might be: have them do some of the readings, have them sing, or have them prepare and serve the communion elements.

### Opening Sentences

Anyone who thirsts, come and drink!

If you have no money but you're hungry,  
come and receive wine and milk without a price tag.

Why do you spend money on what does not nourish you?

Why do you work for what does not nurture you?

Listen, come and eat healthy food that will delight you.

Come and partake in the Spirit that will give you life.

Come, and become a witness of God's free gift of grace to all people.

**Hymn** (*sing, use instruments, You Tube or your own music downloads; feel free to substitute*)

### "How Firm a Foundation" (Glory to God #463; Presbyterian Hymnal #361)

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!

What more can be said than to you God hath said—

To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O, be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not, desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

### **Confession and Pardon**

God is present to us, but we don't always feel it. God is good to us, but we can't always accept it. Fact is, there are things within and around us that attempt to step between us and our relationship to God's goodness. There are things that we think, things that we do, that act to separate us from God. The church calls that "sin." Let us confess our sins to God.

#### *Silence*

God of all mercy: I confess that sin grips me and I cannot break free. The sins in my mind, on my lips, in my acts done or even ignored, stand between me and you.

My entire heart is not always yours. My love of neighbor falls short. In the name of Jesus, have mercy on me. Grant me your renewing forgiveness. Lead me on your paths of righteousness, And I shall delight in you and I shall follow you, giving glory to your holy name. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The God who gives, gives all. The God who loves, loves all.

The God who forgives, forgives all.

Through Christ, our sins, every one of them: the sins of commission, the sins of omission, the sins we confessed with contrition – all are forgiven, by the grace of God. Alleluia!

### **Readings from scripture**

Genesis 32:22-31

Matthew 14:13-21

### **Affirmation of Faith (*Apostles' Creed*)**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **An Offering of Gifts**

In the faithful hands of Christ, our little is multiplied to feed many. Come now; let us offer our loaves and fishes to the All-sufficient One who said, "Bring them here to me."

### **The Lord's Supper**

*(the communion prayer is offered in a video  
on the Grace Presbyterian Church Facebook group)*

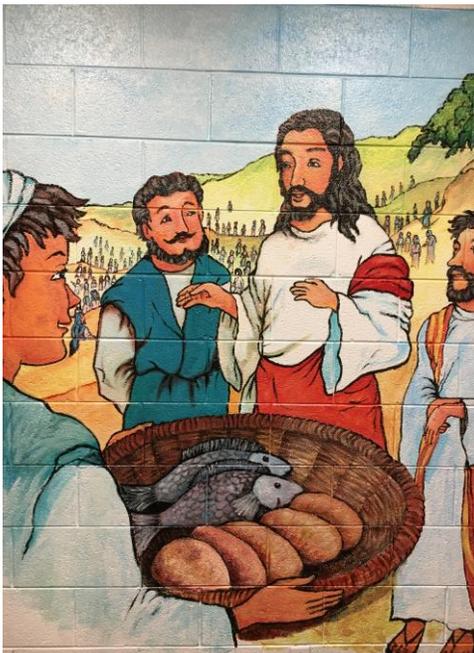
### **Invitation to the Table**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

And with these words our savior invites all who trust him,  
and all who would trust him more to come to the feast he has prepared:

a feast of joy and hope, a feast of mercy and grace,  
a feast of resurrection and life.



### **Breaking of the Bread**

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this remembering me.

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

The gifts of God, for the people of God.

*Partake of the bread and cup. If there is more than one gathered, serve each other,*

## The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn** (*sing, use instruments, You Tube or your own music downloads; feel free to substitute*)

**"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken" (Glory to God # 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**

## Charge and Blessing

Touched, changed, called, and empowered,  
go now in the power and provision of Christ  
to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and serve the world.

Christ himself, who holds you in his hands,  
has blessed you, broken you, and given you as his gift to the world.  
May the grace of Christ be multiplied to you and through you, now and forever. Amen.

(Resources: Feasting on the Word; Book of Common Worship; Lectionary Liturgies)

Artwork on page 1: *Eric Feather, "Christ Feeding 5000"*

Artwork on page 3: mural in Grace's Kids Club Room, painted by Duh Laui