

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (v1)

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:30-44

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, powerful & compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding & protecting us. Heal each of us, & make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice & peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Mark 6:30-44

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, & told him all that they had done & taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves & rest a while." For many were coming & going, & they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going & recognized them, & they hurried there on foot from all the towns & arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; & he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; & he began to teach them many things. ³⁵When it grew late, his disciples came to him & said, "This is a deserted place, & the hour is now very late; ³⁶send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country & villages & buy something for themselves to eat." ³⁷But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go & buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, & give it to them to eat?" ³⁸And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go & see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, & two fish." ³⁹Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰So they sat down in groups of hundreds & of fifties. ⁴¹Taking the five loaves & the two fish, he looked up to heaven, & blessed & broke the loaves, & gave them to his disciples to set before the people; & he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²And all ate & were filled; ⁴³and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces & of the fish. ⁴⁴Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Review vv7-13. How do vv31-32 reinforce 2:23--3:6? (cf. 1:35, 7:17) How are such things more important than ever in our always on, 24-7-365 society?
2. How does this lesson look like weekly worship? See 14:22. What can you do to increase the size of the crowd? Who can you bring to be fed by Jesus?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Review the [Small Catechism](#) & [Large Catechism](#) explanations of the Lord's Prayer. How is the logic of the Lord's Prayer illustrated in this gospel lesson? [SC](#), [LC](#) available bookofconcord.org
4. Notice the crowd eats what's served & is filled. What prevents your satisfaction with God's provision to you? How can you develop more gratitude here? See [SC meal prayers & notes](#).

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. The church has referred to the world's lacks, especially the poor, as its greatest treasures* (2 Corinthians 8:8-15, esp. v14). What ministry/ service does your congregation perform now that embodies v34, serving those who have not been served already, those who are not yet here with you? *(cf. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Lawrence#Martyrdom)
6. Throughout its history, the Church has done a lot with very little, including transforming all of western civilization with words about the Word. Consider your answer(s) to #5. What is lacking in your local neighborhood that you & your household could begin to fill? That your congregation could begin to fill? What immediate resources do you have to get started (v38)?

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

07.21.24

Series: The Shape of Belief

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Our inward beliefs about Jesus shape our outward lives

Amid Scarcity

Too often we begin with what's pragmatic, not God's promise to provide

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: And all ate & were filled (v42)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, & they follow me. (*John 10:27*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (v1)

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:30-44

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, powerful & compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding & protecting us. Heal each of us, & make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice & peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Mark 6:30-44

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, & told him all that they had done & taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves & rest a while." For many were coming & going, & they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going & recognized them, & they hurried there on foot from all the towns & arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; & he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; & he began to teach them many things. ³⁵When it grew late, his disciples came to him & said, "This is a deserted place, & the hour is now very late; ³⁶send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country & villages & buy something for themselves to eat." ³⁷But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go & buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, & give it to them to eat?" ³⁸And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go & see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, & two fish." ³⁹Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰So they sat down in groups of hundreds & of fifties. ⁴¹Taking the five loaves & the two fish, he looked up to heaven, & blessed & broke the loaves, & gave them to his disciples to set before the people; & he divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²And all ate & were filled; ⁴³and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces & of the fish. ⁴⁴Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Review vv7-13. How do vv31-32 reinforce 2:23--3:6? (cf. 1:35, 7:17) How are such things more important than ever in our always on, 24-7-365 society?
2. How does this lesson look like weekly worship? See 14:22. What can you do to increase the size of the crowd? Who can you bring to be fed by Jesus?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Review the [Small Catechism](#) & [Large Catechism](#) explanations of the Lord's Prayer. How is the logic of the Lord's Prayer illustrated in this gospel lesson? [SC](#), [LC](#) available bookofconcord.org
4. Notice the crowd eats what's served & is filled. What prevents your satisfaction with God's provision to you? How can you develop more gratitude here? See [SC meal prayers & notes](#).

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. The church has referred to the world's lacks, especially the poor, as its greatest treasures* (2 Corinthians 8:8-15, esp. v14). What ministry/ service does your congregation perform now that embodies v34, serving those who have not been served already, those who are not yet here with you? *(cf. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Lawrence#Martyrdom)
6. Throughout its history, the Church has done a lot with very little, including transforming all of western civilization with words about the Word. Consider your answer(s) to #5. What is lacking in your local neighborhood that you & your household could begin to fill? That your congregation could begin to fill? What immediate resources do you have to get started (v38)?

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

07.21.24

Series: The Shape of Belief

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Our inward beliefs about Jesus shape our outward lives

Amid Scarcity

Too often we begin with what's pragmatic, not God's promise to provide

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: And all ate & were filled (v42)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, & they follow me. (*John 10:27*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog