

SUNDAY, 5/3/2020
10 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.**
Join URL: <https://umcom.zoom.us/j/99748852028>
- **Have bread and juice/wine ready for worship this morning**

PRELUDE

Deb Verdegan, Piano

CENTERING WORDS AND OPENING PRAYER

These last few weeks we have been sharing about symbols of our faith that we see and use in our ordinary lives. In the first week of this series, we talked about the basin and the towel. Jesus used these tools to offer avenues of grace for all of God's people. Last week we shared how candles can light a fire of love and life in our faith lives. This morning, we look at the bread and cup, symbols used in Holy Communion. Traditionally, these symbols are used at the remembrance of the Last Supper, where Jesus used the basin and towel for his disciples' feet. Today, we break bread at the water's edge.

The image of bread is used throughout all of Scripture as a symbol for Jesus. Today, bread represents abundance and sustenance. In short, it represents life. This a truth for water too. Water is life-giving and powerful.

Jesus, our Lord and Savior, calls himself both the living water and the bread of life. When we enjoy the water's edge and when we break bread together, we are participating in long held traditions that celebrate Jesus, who he was, is and will be. Through these acts, the ordinary moments, such as meal times or quiet times in reflection, become holy and sacred times. These are moments where the veil between Heaven and Earth is the thinnest. These are the moments when the ordinary becomes the extraordinary.

Let us pray. Jesus, you meet us at the water's edge of our ordinary lives. You accept us lovingly, you encourage us, you invite us to abundance. Nourished by the food of your word, warmed by the fire of your unfailing love, may we, in turn, nourish, heal and love those we meet today. Amen.

Please join in singing our opening song today. The lyrics are on your screen.

SONG *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*
Deanna Bahrke & Rev. Cathy Christman, vocalists
Deb Verdegan, Piano

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 21:1-14

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered.

He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught." So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

CHOIR ANTHEM

There is a River in Judea

Choir

SERMON:

Breaking Bread at the Water's Edge

MINISTRY MOMENT: *A Symbolic Meal of Communion*

Please have bread and juice/wine prepared. Your responses are in bold.

(cont. on back page)

INVITATION

L: As we come to the table of the water's edge, partaking of God's heavenly feast, let us prepare our hearts anew to be in communion with one another and with the risen Christ.

P: **We come, ready to partake of bread and cup; ready to commune with one another and with the living God.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: Gracious God, we give thanks that through Christ, we live in your favor.

P: **We give thanks that through Christ, we come to the table of grace partaking heavenly food and the gift of salvation.**

L: Like the great company of witnesses, who came to this table before us, we are filled with gratitude and joy for your many blessings.

P: **We come before you in praise and thanksgiving, as we commit ourselves again as members of the living body of Christ.**

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS

Let us pray. God as we break this bread, and witness your grace revealed to us, we pray for your spirit to flow among us, connecting us as one body in your son, Jesus. We pray for your spirit to turn these ordinary things and these ordinary spaces into sacred gifts. Pour out your spirit on us and on these gifts, making them be for us a reminder of your never-ending, life-giving love. May this meal inspire us always to unite your world for good by your direction. Amen.

BREAKING OF BREAD, GIVING OF THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER

Thank you, God, for this simple meal in this sacred place. Thank you, God, for these ordinary gifts of bread and cup turned extraordinary by the power of your love. As we come to the water's edge, we feel the nourishment of your grace. May we be empowered today and always to share your love with all that we do and say. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

One Bread, One Body

Ken & Pat Chritton, vocalists

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Deb Verdegan, piano

THANK YOU TO OUR READERS, VOCALISTS AND
DEB VERDEGAN FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN
THE SERVICE TODAY.



The power of taking
Communion at home



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