

# TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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## Pentecost 11

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In the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Martin Luther wrote the explanation for this petition this way: *What does this mean?* "God surely gives daily bread without our asking, even to all the wicked, but we pray in this petition that he would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving." Then Luther asks this question: *What then is meant by daily bread?* He answers: "Daily bread includes everything that we need for our bodily welfare, such as food and drink, clothing and shoes, house and home, fields and flocks, money and goods, a godly family, good workers, good government, honest leaders, good citizens, good weather, peace and order, health, a good name, loyal friends and good neighbors."

Certainly, there is nothing wrong asking God to provide our "daily bread." God is concerned, however, about the attitude of our hearts from which such a request comes. If we look to our God with an attitude of appreciation and faith, He is pleased.

What's more, it's important to keep in mind that while the request for God providing for our physical needs is important, what the Lord provides through His word and sacraments to meet our spiritual hunger remains most important. As our gracious Lord comes to us in His word and sacraments, there we witness the LORD in all His saving glory for spiritually hungry sinners.

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60, The Divine Service "*Rite Two*"

Hymns: 446 (1-4, 8), 184, 379, 599

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

*Old Testament: Exodus 16:2-15.* It is not the request for food that is wrong, as our Lord himself shows us in the fourth petition of the Lord's Prayer. Rather it is the attitude of the soul, here an attitude of unbelief, from which that request proceeds. How quickly the new needs put to the test one's faith in God's faithful grace!

*Psalms of the Day: Psalm 145.* From His gracious hand alone, the LORD provides for the needs of His people. May our souls respond with hymns of thanks and praise (CW pg.119).

*Epistle: Ephesians 4:17-24.* The life of the unbeliever, as well as the desire of the sinful nature, is to live for the body and the satisfaction of its lusts. But Jesus and His word, the bread of life, has given us a new nature to serve our Lord by a life that corresponds to the self-giving life of Jesus.

*Verse of the Day:* Alleluia. Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will hold on to my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our home with him." Alleluia. (John 14:23, EHV)  
*Gospel: John 6:24-35.* In a magnificent paradox, Jesus teaches us the proper relationship between the body and soul, and the relationship of both to God. The primary goal of life is not the satisfaction of the need for perishing bread. By God's grace alone, the word of the gospel creates and sustains faith and gives life that lasts forever.

*Sermon: John 6:24-35*

*Theme - "Feed Us...Bread Of Life!"*

Points to ponder from the day's Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: The LORD graciously and miraculously provided for the physical needs of the Israelites wandering in the wilderness after leaving Egypt and journeying to the Promised Land. How did the people respond to the LORD's loving rescue from Egypt and His continuing providence for their physical and spiritual needs?
- Epistle: While the sinful nature wants to satisfy its hunger for lustful desires, what does the New Man (Nature) desire?
- Gospel: How does Jesus teach the proper relationship between caring for the body and soul?
- Gospel: Of what "bread" does Jesus speak, a bread that doesn't perish or spoil?
- Gospel: How do we feed ourselves spiritually?

**Announcements:**

+ Please join us for Bible class on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. as we study the various Psalms!

**Exodus 16:2-15** – The entire Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in the land of Egypt, when we sat around pots of meat and ate as much food as we wanted, but now you have brought us out into this wilderness to have this whole community die of hunger." Then the LORD said to Moses, "Watch what I will do. I will rain down bread from heaven for you, and the people will go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test whether they will follow my instructions or not. On the sixth day they will prepare what they bring in, and it will be twice as much as they gather on the other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "At evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you will see the Glory of the LORD, because he has heard your constant grumbling against the LORD. Who are we that you should grumble against us?" Moses said, "Now the LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and as much bread as you want in the morning, because the LORD has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Tell the entire Israelite

community, ‘Come before the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling.’” As Aaron spoke to the entire Israelite community, they turned toward the wilderness, and suddenly the Glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses: “I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Say to them, ‘At evening you will eat meat, and in the morning you will eat bread until you are full. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’” So in the evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning a layer of dew surrounded the camp. When the layer of dew was gone, there were thin flakes on the surface of the wilderness, thin as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” because they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “This is the bread which the LORD has given to you as food to eat.” (EHV™)

**Ephesians 4:17-24** – So I tell you this and testify to it in the Lord: Do not walk any longer as the Gentiles walk, in their futile way of thinking. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, due to the hardness of their hearts. Because they have no sense of shame, they have given themselves over to sensuality, with an ever-increasing desire to practice every kind of impurity. But you did not learn Christ in that way, if indeed you have heard of him and were taught in him (since the truth is in Jesus). As far as your former way of life is concerned, you were taught to take off the old self, which is corrupted by its deceitful desires, and to be renewed continually in the spirit of your mind, and to put on the new self, which has been created to be like God in righteousness and true holiness. (EHV™)

**John 6:24-35** – When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?” Jesus answered them, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: You are not looking for me because you saw the miraculous signs, but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not continue to work for the food that spoils, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.” So they said to him, “What should we do to carry out the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God: that you believe in the one he sent.” Then they asked him, “So what miraculous sign are you going to do, that we may see it and believe you? What miraculous sign are you going to perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” Jesus said to them, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the real bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” “Sir,” they said to him, “give us this bread all the time!” “I am the Bread of Life,” Jesus told them. “The one who comes to me will never be hungry, and the one who believes in me will never be thirsty.” (EHV™)