

**Gathering Hymn** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* ELW 656

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the unity of heart and mind  
is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear
- 4 From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
and sin we shall be free;  
and perfect love and friendship reign  
through all eternity.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

**Hymn of the Day** *Let Us Break Bread Together* ELW 471

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.  
  
**Refrain** When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.
- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees. **Refrain**
- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees. **Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual

**Sending Hymn** *Son of God, Eternal Savior* ELW 655

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
hallows all our human race,  
you our head, who, throned in glory,  
for your own will ever plead:

fill us with your love and pity,  
heal our wrong, and help our need.

- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for others,  
so may we for others live.  
Freely have your gifts been granted;  
freely may your servants give.  
Yours the gold and yours the silver,  
yours the wealth of land and sea;  
we but stewards of your bounty  
held in solemn trust will be.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,  
King of love and Prince of peace;  
hush the storm of strife and passion,  
bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling,  
by your silent hours of pain,  
quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,  
stem our selfish greed of gain.
- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
hallows all our human race:  
by your praying, by your willing  
that your people should be one,  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition:  
here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

**First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'"

<sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the

cloud. <sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’ ”

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 78:23-29**

<sup>23</sup>So God commanded the clouds above  
and opened the doors of heaven.

<sup>24</sup>**Raining down manna upon them to eat  
and giving them grain from heaven.**

<sup>25</sup>So mortals ate the bread of angels;  
God provided for them food enough.

<sup>26</sup>**The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens  
and powerfully led out the south wind.**

<sup>27</sup>Raining down flesh upon them like dust  
and flying birds like the sand of the seas.

<sup>28</sup>**Letting them fall in the midst of the camp  
and round about the dwellings.**

<sup>29</sup>So the people ate and were well filled.  
**For God gave them what they craved.**

### **Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16**

<sup>1</sup>I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup>But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;  
he gave gifts to his people.”

<sup>9</sup>(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also

descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

### **Gospel: John 6:24-35**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

<sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup>So they 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?” <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup>They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup>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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**