# Ante Communion Service: July 25, 2021, Proper 12B

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Celebrant Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave birth,

our light and our salvation. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets

are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Jesus Christ our

Lord. Amen.

A moment of silence for self-reflection

Celebrant Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People Gracious God, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved

our neighbors as ourselves; we have not loved all Creation with the love of the Creator.

We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways

to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit

be with you all.

People And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the Creator, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, and honor, and glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Let us pray together: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* 

## First Reading 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:10-19 Exaltabo te, Deus

All your works praise you, O Lord, \*
and your faithful servants bless you.
They make known the glory of your kingdom \*
and speak of your power;
That the peoples may know of your power \*
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*

your dominion endures throughout all ages.

The Lord is faithful in all his words \*

and merciful in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all those who fall; \*

he lifts up those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, \*

and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand \*

and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways \*

and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, \*

to all who call upon him faithfully.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

### Second Reading Ephesians 3:14-21

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel John 6:1-21

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Hymn Break Thou the Bread of Life

Acapeldridge

Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea; throughout the sacred page I seek thee, Lord, my spirit pants for thee, O living Word.

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me, as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee; then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All in all.

Thou art the Bread of Life, O Lord, to me, thy holy Word the truth that saveth me; give me to eat and live with thee above; teach me to love thy truth, for thou art love.

Nicene Creed Said by all.

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People**

Celebrant With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church,

those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the peace and unity of the world;

That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For all who love and trust in God, that divisions may cease;

And that all may be one, as you and the Father are one.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For wisdom in this time of pandemic;

That our actions may protect the health of ourselves and others.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. Silence.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them.

May they rest in your peace eternally.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

We pray together for Christ's presence:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine.

I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.

Celebrant: While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

**People:** We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.

Celebrant: Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

*People:* The love we share becomes bread for the world.

#### Blessing

May the blessing of Christ's light be on you - light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine on you and warm your heart till it glows.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be in you, among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

#### Dismissal

Go in peace and hope and joy to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

The Lord Bless You and Keep You [Lutkin]

Acapeldridge