

AUGUST 12, 2018
TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus gives himself as the living bread for eternal life.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven
Monday	1 Kings 19:4-8	Elijah flees from Jezebel
Tuesday	Ephesians 4:25–5:2	Rules for the new life
Wednesday	John 4:1-16	Jesus promises living water
Thursday	Revelation 7:9-17	Never again will they hunger
Friday	Genesis 18:1-15	Abram and Sarai feed strangers
Saturday	Psalms 34:1-8	Taste and see
Sunday	John 6:51-58	Christ, the true food and drink

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” **John 6:51 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you are the living bread that feeds us and grants us eternal life now and always. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

O taste and see that the Lord is good, we thank you now for this daily food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with all joy in believing and in believing grant you eternal life. (John 6:47)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
Taste and See



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What do you hope to be doing five, ten, and twenty years from now?
- The Christian faith believes in the resurrection of the body. Why is this belief important?
- In the Gospel of John eternal life begins now by receiving and eating the living bread that is Jesus. What does it mean to you that eternal life begins now?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Ephesians 4:25–5:2.

Ephesians emphasizes the importance of living in community by speaking the truth (v. 25), not letting anger turn to sin (v. 26), sharing with the needy (v. 28), speaking only that which builds up the community (v. 29), and being “kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you” (v. 32). The gospel is lived in the world through the integrity of the Christian community that imitates God “as beloved children” (v. 5:1). Why is the community life of the church so important to the work and message of Christ? What happens when the church fails to live a life filled with compassion and forgiveness? How does God call you to live the eternal life now through your personal relationships and local congregation?

Pray: The Lord’s Prayer.

SERVICE

The way God says, “I love you,” is to feed us, promising us a feast and providing daily bread. Psalm 34:8 says, “O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.” God’s love is for us to taste, see, and touch. Today, a common way to take care of one another and express God’s love is to feed each other, especially when others are sick or grieving. Think of someone who could be blessed by your care. Visit that person and bring a meal or a treat to enjoy with him or her. When you eat, add the following prayer: **O taste and see that the Lord is good, we thank you now for this daily food. Amen.**

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Ephesians 4:29 states, “Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.” Be intentional this week to give family and friends compliments or words of encouragement. Pray that God will help you be encouraging to one another.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org