

9th Sunday After Trinity: 6 August 2023

“Teachable Moments”

Notices

- Hethel Cream Teas – 2-5pm
- Monday, 11-2:30, Community Hub
- Tuesday-Thursday, Holiday Club!
- Thursday, 2:30, Hanover Communion
- Benefice Meeting – 7:30, Wed 16 Aug, HH
- Autumn Tea Dance, 2:30-5:30pm, Sun 1 Oct

Introduction & Welcome

A Gathering Prayer

Gracious God,
we can often feel very
ordinary and inadequate,
worrying that we are not good enough.
Teach us in these moments
to treasure ourselves as your creation,
and let your hospitable love flow through us to others.
Amen.

Song: Lost is Found

Saying Sorry

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit, you give us life and peace:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Receiving Forgiveness

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Minute To Win It – Lush Grub!

Pick 'n' Mix Meals

Eularia Clarke - The Five Thousand



A big community, and all-age picnic of fish and chips. The boy (centre) is growing very tall as he listens and learns from the word that the preacher (top right) is sharing. What else is happening in the painting? Ponder the things that might make this a teachable moment for the boy. Beyond this, the bikes are symbols of journeying. Some of the women face the other way, sharing food with their children and looking directly at us – are they welcoming us? All ages are present, accepted, welcomed.

Feeding 5000, from The Chosen

Bible Reading: Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹⁵ As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

¹⁶ Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

¹⁷ "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

¹⁸ "Bring them here to me," he said. ¹⁹ And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke

the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. ²⁰They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ²¹The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Thinking About The Story

- What do you like best?
- What strikes you as most important?
 - What was Jesus up to?
 - What will you take away?
- Is there anything you will do differently?

Logos by Mary Oliver

Why worry about the loaves and fishes?
If you say the right words, the wine expands.
If you say them with love
and the felt ferocity of that love
and the felt necessity of that love,
the fish explode into many.
Imagine him, speaking,
and don't worry about what is reality,
or what is plain, or what is mysterious.
If you were there, it was all those things.
If you can imagine it, it is all those things.
Eat, drink, be happy.
Accept the miracle.
Accept, too, each spoken word
spoken with love.

Song: Good Good Father

Teachable Moments – Sharing Responses

The Profession of Faith:

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the
Father, source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son,
Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

All: We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All: This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Responding in Prayer

Distribute fresh home-baked bread.

God of overflowing abundance,
we thank you for the food before us, feeding our bodies and souls,
for old and new friends beside us,
for the joy of sharing,
for the flow of creativity and
love when we trust you.

Amen.

Our Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Amen.

Song: Everlasting God

Closing Blessing

Loving God, thank you for using our small contributions.
Help us not to doubt that each of us has something to offer,
and that, when we trustfully offer it to you,
you do amazing things for us, among us and through us –

And so may the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be among you and remain with you
Now and always.
Amen.