

**Sunday, July 29, 2012**  
**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Service by Bethesda Youth**  
**Synod Journey “Citizens with the Saints”**  
**Biloxi, New Orleans**

**INTRODUCTION**

*Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.*

**PRELUDE:** “If Walls Could Talk”



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SONG:** “All Are Welcome”

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **SHARE THE PEACE**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:           “Sprinkle Sunshine”**

## **FIRST READING: Ephesians 3:14–21**

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

For this reason 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.

### **PSALM: Psalm 145:10–18**

***Refrain:** You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)*

All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful<sup>1</sup> ones shall bless you.

**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works. R**

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

**The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food<sup>1</sup> in due season.**

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

**You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.**

You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully. **R**

### **GOSPEL: John 6:1–21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

After this 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



With reverence for the earth, those in need, and the whole human family, let us offer our prayers to God.

*A time for silent prayer.*

Make the church a sign of your bountiful compassion and abundant grace. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Guide prosperous nations to seek a just allocation of the earth's resources, that all people will be fed. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living thing. Bring forth food to nourish all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Fill with your goodness all who live with hunger, poverty, fear, depression, or illness (*especially*). May they be rooted and grounded in your love. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Teach us to offer our first fruits to you, sharing generously of all that you have first given us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be made.*

Unite us with all the saints who reveal to us the breadth and length and height and depth of your love, which surpasses all knowledge. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Receive our hopes and prayers, O God of mercy, for great is your faithfulness in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN: Repeat—"Make a Difference"**

**CONGREGATION says: Go and Be Like Jesus**

**EXIT SONG: "Alle"**

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**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK OF JULY 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

Music: Youth

Greeters: Keith & Dawn Kellen

Lectors: Youth

Ushers: 8:30 Shirley Moe, Diane Sandberg, 10:00 Marilyn Andrews, Judy Seifert

Coffee Servers: Jackie Stockdill, Judy Seifert, Dee Olson, Marge Garbo

**RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD LAST WEEK (7/19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>)**

Attendance: Sat. 5:00 – 26 Sun. 8:30 – 119 10:00 – 42

Offering: \$2, 785.00 Building Fund: \$ 490.00

**\$ 3,846.00 – Weekly amount needed for operating expenses.**

**\$ 580.00 – Weekly amount (building fund) needed for mortgage payment.**

**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA JULY 29<sup>TH</sup> THRU AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

Mon., July 30<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m. AA & Alanon

Tues., July 31<sup>st</sup> 9:30 a.m. Bells

Wed., Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> 9:30 a.m. Hardanger  
6:00 p.m. Choir  
7:00 p.m. Praise Team

Thurs., Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:30 a.m. Worship & Music  
1:00 p.m. Funtimers

Sat., Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:00 p.m. Worship Service

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For those of you who had your photo taken by **Lifetouch** but did not order any additional photos, your **complimentary photo** is on the bench in the church office so please pick it up. If it is not there yet, we will be getting additional shipments so check later.

Mission/Evangelism Committee and Church Council would like your ideas on how to disperse the benevolence money. We are looking for suggestions as to **LOCAL** organizations and individuals that you feel are in need. Please write your suggestions on the provided slip and place inside the box (located in the narthex) for **LOCAL benevolence giving**.

**COFFEE SERVERS**—Keep an eye on the signup sheets next to the kitchen serving window to see if we need help to serve coffee on any given Sunday. If everyone did their part, you would only have to serve once or twice during the year. Serving involves making & serving the coffee, providing the goodies of your choice and cleaning up afterward.

**The VEGGIE STAND** is still seeking volunteers to assist with the veggie stand through Labor Day weekend. Pick a Saturday to help and signup in the narthex.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BRAINERD** is **hosting a Beth Moore simulcast** on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Check the Community Bulletin board for further information.

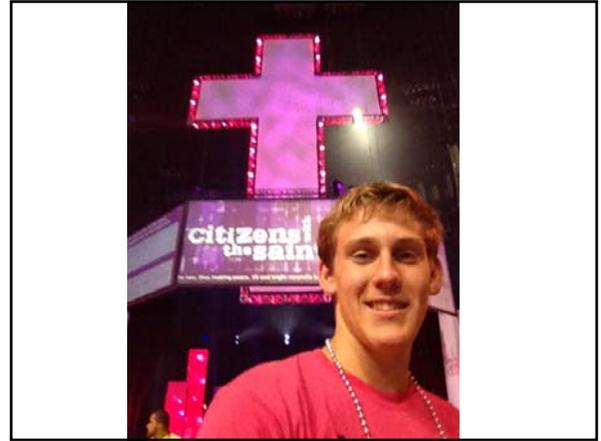
Remember there are **NO BIBLE STUDIES** this week.

**As the Healing Service which is normally held the fifth Sunday of the month is not going to take place this month Parish Nurse Kathy Berland will be available at the nurse's office following the first service if anyone has concerns or would like to have a private prayer with her.**







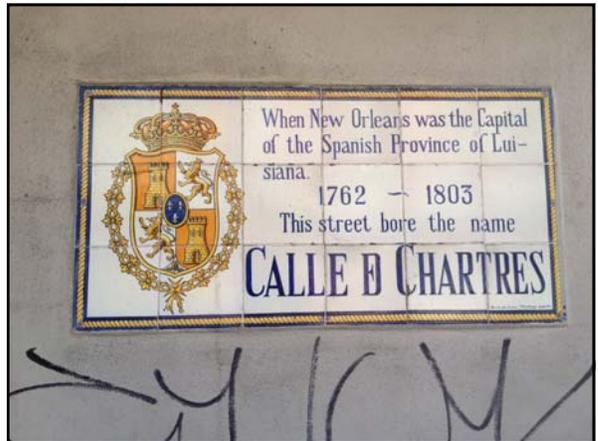


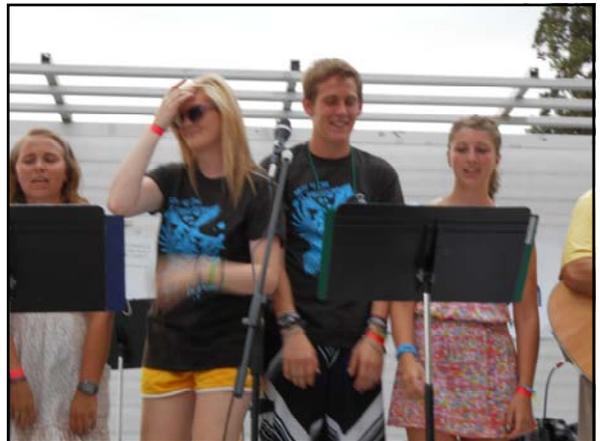
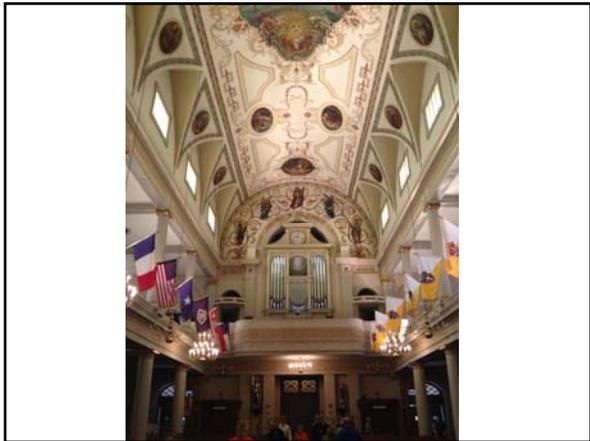
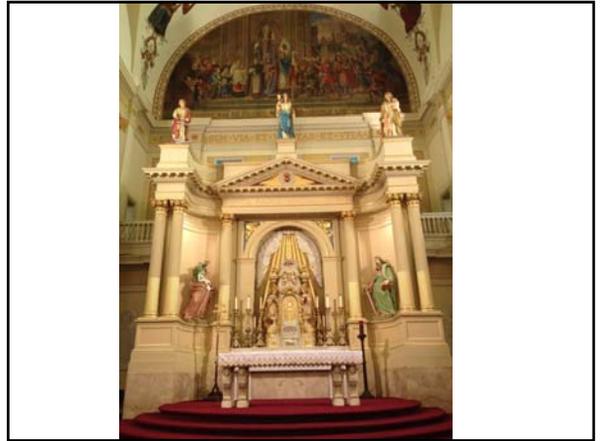
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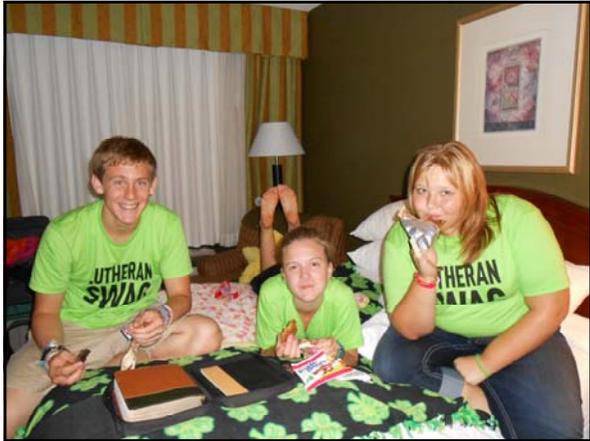




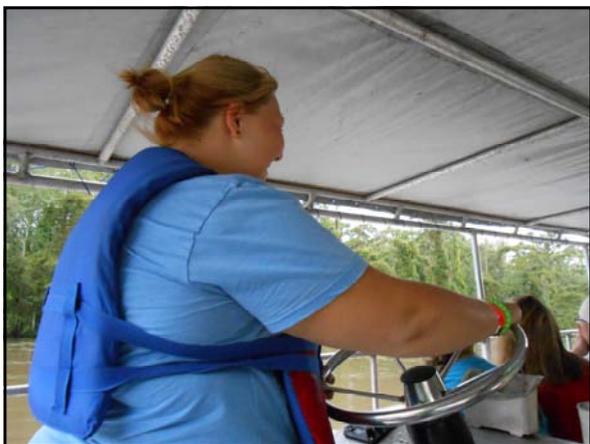
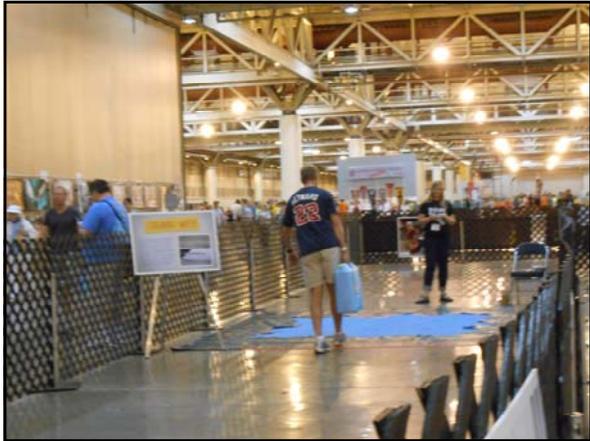


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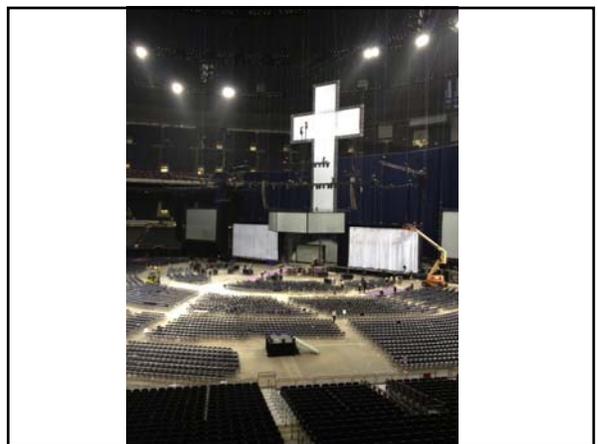


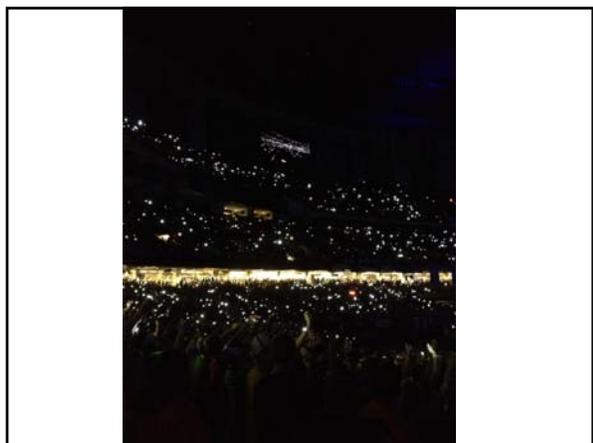












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**Chorus**

**I want my life---to make a difference  
I want my life---to make a change**

**I want my life---to do some good here  
I want my life---to make a change**



**Chorus**

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I want my life---to make a change**

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Chorus

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**Chorus**

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Chorus

I want my life---to make a difference  
I want my life---to make a change

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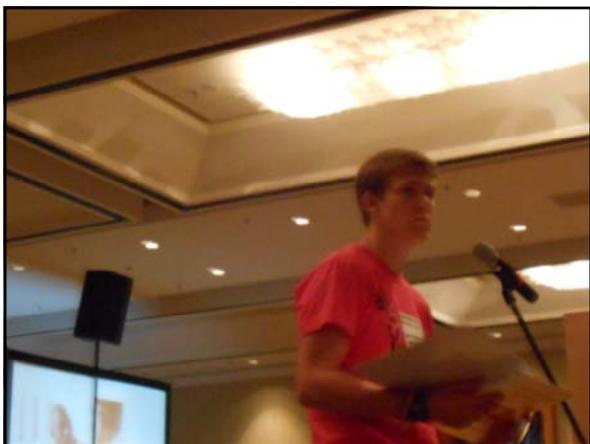


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