

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP:

‘Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him” (Lamentations 3:22-24).

SONGS:

EVERYONE NEEDS COMPASSION

**Everyone needs compassion,
love that’s never failing;
let mercy fall on me
Everyone needs forgiveness,
the kindness of a Saviour;
the hope of nations.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains,
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.**

**So take me as You find me,
all my fears and failures;
fill my life again.
I give my life to follow
everything I believe in;
now I surrender.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains,
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see
We’re singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus.
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We’re singing for the glory of the risen King.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains,
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.
Forever, Author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,**

Jesus conquered the grave.

THERE'S NO LACK IN ALL YOU'VE GIVEN

**There's no lack in all you've given,
I am richer than a king;
In the gift of Christ our portion,
my soul is well.
There's no promise I am missing,
All I need has been supplied;
You're the strong and firm foundation,
My soul is well, my soul is well.**

**Praise the Lord, O my soul cry out;
Praise the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord, O my soul cry out;
For in you my soul is well.**

**Though the struggles have been many,
And the flesh inside me weak;
Lord, your grace and truth have taught me
my soul is well.
Though I've wandered in confusion,
I have seen enough to know;
Where I tread your goodness follows,
My soul is well, my soul is well.**

**Praise the Lord, O my soul cry out;
Praise the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord, O my soul cry out;
For in you my soul is well.**

**To the praise of all your glory and your grace
To the praise of all your glory and your grace
In the wonder of your goodness I will sing,
'Great is the Lord.' (repeat)**

**Praise the Lord, O my soul cry out;
Praise the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord, O my soul cry out;
For in you my soul is well.**

OPENING PRAYER

Lord our God, we come to you, hungry for your Word, hungry for your presence, hungry to know you more. Fill our hearts with such love for you that we hunger for you more and more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

We confess that we haven't always hungered for you. As your people we have sometimes been disobedient and wandered from your ways. Forgive us, Lord, and restore us to your right path; for your glory's sake. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord love you, and declares to you, "Your sins are forgiven." Amen. Thanks be to God.

NOTICES

- Fellowship picnic lunch after the service.
- Monday:
 - Care Village Service 11am
 - Finance meeting 7.30pm
- Tuesday:
 - Hope Café 10am
 - BCT Trustees meeting 3.30pm
 - Alpha (Farsi) 7.30pm
- Wednesday:
 - Communion 10am
 - Church Council mediation meeting 7.30pm
- Thursday:
 - Tots 9.30am
 - Twin Oaks Summer Songs of Praise 11am
- Friday:
 - Food Bank 10am
- Sunday
 - 14th July: Baptism Sunday

OFFERTORY SONG: 5000 PLUS HUNGRY FOLK

5 0 0 0 + hungry folk
5 0 0 0 + hungry folk
5 0 0 0 + hungry folk
Came 4 2 listen 2 Jesus

The 6 x 2 said O O O
The 6 x 2 said O O O
The 6 x 2 said O O O
Where can I get some food from?

Just 1 had 1 2 3 4 5
Just 1 had 1 2 3 4 5
Just 1 had 1 2 3 4 5
Loaves and 1 2 fishes

When Jesus blessed the 5 + 2
When Jesus blessed the 5 + 2
When Jesus blessed the 5 + 2
They were increased many X over

5 0 0 0 + 8 it up
5 0 0 0 + 8 it up
5 0 0 0 + 8 it up
With 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 basketfuls left over

READING: Mark 6:30-44

The apostles gathered round Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. 31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'

32 So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. 33 But many who saw them leaving recognised them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. 'This is a remote place,' they said, 'and it's already very late. 36 Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.'

37 But he answered, 'You give them something to eat.'

They said to him, 'That would take more than half a year's wages[a]! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?'

38 'How many loaves do you have?' he asked. 'Go and see.'

When they found out, they said, 'Five – and two fish.'

39 Then Jesus told them to make all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. 41 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 his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. 42 They all ate and were satisfied, 43 and the

disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. 44 The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

ACTIVITY AT TABLES: 5000 STAMPS

Take a person shape and paint it. Then make as many stampings of the person on the sheet. Do it again and again. See if we can make 5000. Someone at the table needs to keep count of how many people are stamped. (If there are 40 people present, that means every person has to do 125 stamps).

REFLECTION: THERE IS ALWAYS ENOUGH

In May 2010 after the general Election, Liam Byrne, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, left a note for his successor David Laws. The note read, "Dear Chief Secretary, I'm afraid there is no money. Kind regards – and good luck! Liam."

We can understand what it is like for the money to run out or to have no money, especially in a cost-of-living crisis. We can understand it. So, today's reading about Jesus providing for those who didn't have any food, feels like a world away from today's reality. So how can this story help us?

In the economy of God, there is always enough, and there will always be enough. Having five thousand men needing feeding, plus all the women and children, was an opportunity for the disciples to learn a valuable lesson from Jesus. In the economy of God, there is always enough and there will always be enough. The question that Jesus asked the disciples was "How many loaves do you have?" In other words, what have you got? He asks us the same question – what do you have? You may say, I have very little, I don't have enough, but in the economy of God, there will always be enough. Taking a boy's five loaves and two fish, the world would tell us it's not enough even for one adult. But Jesus takes what the boy had to offer and multiplied it. For he is the one who made something out of nothing. He created the world, so creating bread and fish is child's play in comparison.

If we reduce this to a story about people sharing their food, we miss the real meaning of this miracle. Now people sharing their food is great. If only the world shared so no-one went hungry. But this is a miracle that is recorded by all four gospel writers (Matthew 14; Mark 6; Luke 9; John 6). The point of this miracle is that with Jesus there is always enough.

You may have heard of George Muller, the German Christian who built and ran a number of orphanages in Bristol in the 19th century, housing 1,722 children. Muller never made requests for financial support, nor did he go into debt. Many times, he received donations of food just as they had run out of food for the children. On one

occasion, all the children were sitting at the table even though there was nothing to eat in the house. George Muller prayed with the children, and as they finished praying, the baker knocked at the door with enough bread for everyone, and the milkman gave enough fresh milk for everyone because his cart had broken down outside the orphanage. Another time, someone just turned up with a £2,000 donation, which covered all their expenses. In the economy of God, there is always enough, and there will always be enough.

Something similar happened to missionaries Rolland and Heidi Baker in Mozambique, when God provided for them as they cared for hundreds of street children in that country. In his book 'There is always enough' Rolland Baker writes, 'It would be easy to list our testimonies of victory and create the impression that we have come to live a life of protected ease, blessing and fruitfulness. But our life of faith is continually and increasingly put to the test, not only revealing our flaws, but also his mercies, which are new every morning.'

Whatever little you have, with Jesus there is more than enough, because he is the one who we turn to for help in times of need. What is your need today? Tell Jesus. Let him supply what you need. Ask and you will receive. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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: BE STILL FOR THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here;
Come bow before Him now
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground;
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.**

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

Gracious Lord, we thank you for your provision for us, that you are our portion and delight. Help us this week to trust that you will provide all our needs according to your riches in mercy; in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. **Amen.**