

# The Bread of God from Heaven

*Promise: food and drink for our soul is offered in Holy Communion*

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Exodus 16:2-15; Ps 145:10-22; Eph 4:1-16; [John 6:22-35](#)

(Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, 8/1/21)

*For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. – v. 33*

**Lead In** – Whenever I think of the miraculous bread, named manna, which fell like dew from heaven upon the grass in the morning, I think of Frosted Flakes. That is because it is described as a “flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground.” Of course this is a “kiddy” cereal, but when we have it on hand for grandchildren, I will admit I don’t mind having a bowl. And whenever I think of the multiplication of fish and loaves alluded to in the Gospel Lesson, I think of meals that were so good and plentiful as to have lots of leftovers. All the better for later snacking! But I think the point of readings this morning is for us to concentrate on more substantial food...

## I. Conditioned by Sin to Be Utterly This Worldly

- The Lord knows what we have need of now...
- Our physical appetites cry out loudly...
- Spirit inspired Word can awaken us to...

## II. Our Lord Offers Us a More Substantial Bread

- When Jesus made his own 40 desert pilgrimage...
- The more substantial had always been the Word...

## III. Jesus Identifies Himself as Word from God’s Mouth

- Jesus offers unexpected and shocking identification!
- Little wonder theological John states it this way...
- It is clear, good part of eating here is believing...

**Parting Shot** – No doubt in John 6 the way the Bread of Life, indeed the Incarnate Son of God, is partaken of is by believing in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior. But we should not be surprised if there are ties behind physical eating and consuming spiritual food. And it is just like the God who is invisible, but sent his Son to assume humanity so that he could be touched and seen, that he could make possible the Incarnate Son assuming the bread and wine that we might touch, see, and even taste his promises – even his very body and blood... Come partake of true bread...

**Fourth Petition:** Give us this day our daily bread.

**Meaning:** Daily bread includes everything needed for this life, such as food and clothing, home and property, work and income, a devoted family, an orderly community, good government, favorable weather, peace and health, a good name, and true friends and neighbors.

**Ps 63:1** my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**Ps 63:5-6** My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips, when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night.

## John 6:25-35 ESV

*Jesus Is the Bread of Life*

<sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?” <sup>31</sup>Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup>Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup>They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

**Mt 4:3-4** And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

**Mt 6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

**Dt 8:3** And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

**Is 55:10-11** “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

**Jn 1:14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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## Psalm 145:10-22

<sup>10</sup>All your works praise **you**, O LORD,\*  
and your faithful **servants** bless you.

<sup>11</sup>They make known  
the glory **of** your kingdom\*  
and speak **of** your power;

<sup>12</sup>that the peoples  
may know **of** your power\*  
and the glorious splendor  
**of** your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom  
is an ever**lasting** kingdom;\*  
your dominion endures  
throughout **all** ages.

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is faithful in **all** his words\*  
and merciful in **all** his deeds.

<sup>15</sup>The LORD upholds all **those** who fall;\*  
he lifts up those  
who **are** bowed down.

<sup>16</sup>The eyes of all wait upon **you**, O LORD,\*  
and you give them their food  
**in** due season.

<sup>17</sup>You open **wide** your hand\*  
and satisfy the needs  
of every **living** creature.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD is righteous in **all** his ways\*  
and loving in **all** his works.

<sup>19</sup>The LORD is near to those  
who call **upon** him,\*  
to all who call **upon** him faithfully.

<sup>20</sup>He fulfills the desire  
of **those** who fear him;\*  
he hears their **cry** and helps them.

<sup>21</sup>The LORD preserves all **those**  
who love him,\*  
but he destroys **all** the wicked.

<sup>22</sup>My mouth shall speak  
the praise **of** the LORD;\*  
let all flesh bless his holy name  
forever **and** ever.

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