

Gospel and Sermon Transcript - 10th Sunday After Pentecost - August 2, 2026

00:30

Good to see you. So you must have ducked in just under the cloud cover to be here.

So as we gather today for this worship service, we continue to listen for the word that our Gospels have for the

00:36

church. And today we get to hear that wonderful story about the feeding of

00:41

multitudes. There might be something in there for us. A bit about maybe how the

00:49

service will go today. Might have to, when it comes to sharing the peace and things

00:59

like that be a little careful. I don't know if I have a cold or if I have an

01:03

allergy or what I have but I'm not enjoying it if anybody is curious. So

01:09

maybe just as we say out of abundance of care I will maybe just offer my sign of

01:17

peace but without a handshake or something today. I think we should be

01:21

okay with the distribution of bread because we do have hand sanitizer but I

01:27

might end up taking advantage of my extra long arms just so that I'm not

01:31

breathing on you or something. So, well as we gather it is indeed a mixed day. Our

01:42

minds are rejoicing with Burl Bowen who turns 90 today and celebrates. And our

01:49

minds are also with the family of Les Ords whose funeral service was yesterday

01:56

and Carolyn did say to be sure to thank her St. Matthew's family and spoke much

02:03

about its importance to her faith and I'm confident that you will keep her in

02:08

your prayers.

02:11

(soft music)

02:52

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 14th chapter.

02:58

Glory to you, O Lord.

03:01

Now when Jesus heard about the beheading of John the Baptist, he withdrew from there in

03:07

a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him

03:14

on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd. And he had compassion

03:22

for them and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and

03:29

said, "This is a deserted place. The hour is now late." Send the crowds away so that

03:36

they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves. Jesus said to them,

03:44

"They need not go away. You give them something to eat." And they replied, "We

03:50

have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." Jesus said, "Bring them here to

03:58

me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, taking the five loaves

04:04

and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them

04:11

to the disciples. And the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled.

04:20

And they took up what was left over of the broken pieces twelve baskets full. Those who

04:28

We're about 5,000 men besides women and children.

04:34

The Gospel of our Lord.

04:38

Won't you be seated.

The Sermon

04:56

drinks in peace to you from the one who lavishes on us every good and perfect gift.

05:09

I guess it was a few years back now that there was a

05:14

group of youngsters packed into a very tiny house, maybe 500 square feet, maybe.

05:22

It was a bitter cold December night in North Dakota, which might sound repetitive.

05:32

But this group, they munched on cookies and they sipped cocoa and coffee.

05:38

And their host, my grandfather, wanted to know about their lives and he shared stories about his life.

05:47

He was clearly in His glory. And so was my grandmother, but maybe in a different way.

06:01

I probably should mention, they didn't expect us.

06:08

We were traveling in a van across the prairies to home for Christmas.

06:15

And it was late, and their grandson got it into his head that, oh, we can just pull over

06:24

and Grandma will take care of us.

06:27

Well, when the porch light came on and she saw the group, and that I was with them maybe,

06:35

she beamed, she opened the door, quickly beckoned us in, seated everyone, and she managed to

06:42

get the kettle on, all in what looked like one smooth, deft motion. And then she disappeared

06:52

to the dugout basement to the magic grandma-cassessa freezer, where there were always cookies,

07:00

always cookies, just in case. For my grandmother, feeding people was what she did. It was her

07:12

way of showing love, whether it was to the students or the monks at the Abbey where she

07:17

worked, whether it was eight kids that she and my grandfather raised, or whether it was

07:23

a ragtag group of a baker's dozen who rolled in off of Interstate 90 one very late random

07:31

night in December.

07:35

But that's how my grandmother rolled.

07:40

I think that, as a diva-

07:45

She liked how Jesus rolled too.

07:52

If people were hungry, they got fed.

07:56

The silliness of a guest list

07:58

or trying to impress the neighbors

08:00

was just not even part of Jesus' makeup.

08:05

But compassion, that was a different story.

08:43

We'll try that again.

08:45

This lavish party, political muscle flexing and impetuous promises of John the Baptist.

08:58

This is why Jesus goes to the wilderness.

09:02

basically a puppet of the Roman Empire and a turn code because he was after all a Jewish person.

09:14

Well, as for him, he lived under an empire whose slogan was bread and circuses. You probably

09:27

remember that from your school days, right? When they talked about the Roman Empire being

09:33

bread and circuses, that we amuse people just enough.

09:42

I might just switch this up.

09:43

Is it?

09:43

Am I just hollering at you?

09:45

Is that right?

09:53

[MUSIC - "THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER"]

10:10

♪♪

10:38



10:42

[Music]

11:37

[Music]