

Pastor's Bible Class

August 2, 2026

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 13)

Hymn #849 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered

at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious

Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and

Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us

storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Read Isaiah 55:1-5

1. What are the needs of the people addressed in verse one?
2. Who is included in this group?
3. What price has been paid for wine, milk and bread to be offered "without price?" See Isaiah 52-53.

4. In verse three, we hear the promise of an everlasting covenant. Read Hebrews 8:6-7, 13 and comment on the meaning of this covenant for Israel and for all nations.

Read Matthew 14:13-21

5. What causes Jesus to withdraw by boat to a desolate place?
6. When the crowds follow and flock to Him, He reacts with compassion. Why and what does this tell us about Jesus?
7. What does the response of the disciples in verse 15 tell us about *them*?
8. All three synoptic Gospels include the instructions from verse 16 where Jesus says, “you give them something to eat.” Why did Jesus give this directive? Before answering, consider the action leading up to the Feeding of the 5,000 in Mark 6:7-13 and Luke 9:1-6.
9. What promise to the Church is imbedded in these instructions?
10. Only Matthew records Jesus’ words in verse 18. How can we apply these words to ourselves and to our work as the Church?

Devotional Thought from The Lutheran Study Bible

“The miracle is obviously important because all four evangelists have recorded it. The account here makes no mention of the crowd’s reaction. They seem not to realize that a miracle has taken place. But the disciples know. Each has a basketful of leftovers to testify to what Jesus has done. They will also be privileged to feed the nations spiritually with the bread of life, a resource that will satisfy and never be exhausted. Whenever you have doubts about God’s power to supply your needs, whether physical or spiritual, recall this miracle. Jesus is able to provide” (TLSB, 1612).

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for abundantly answering my prayer, “Give us this day our daily bread.” Amen.