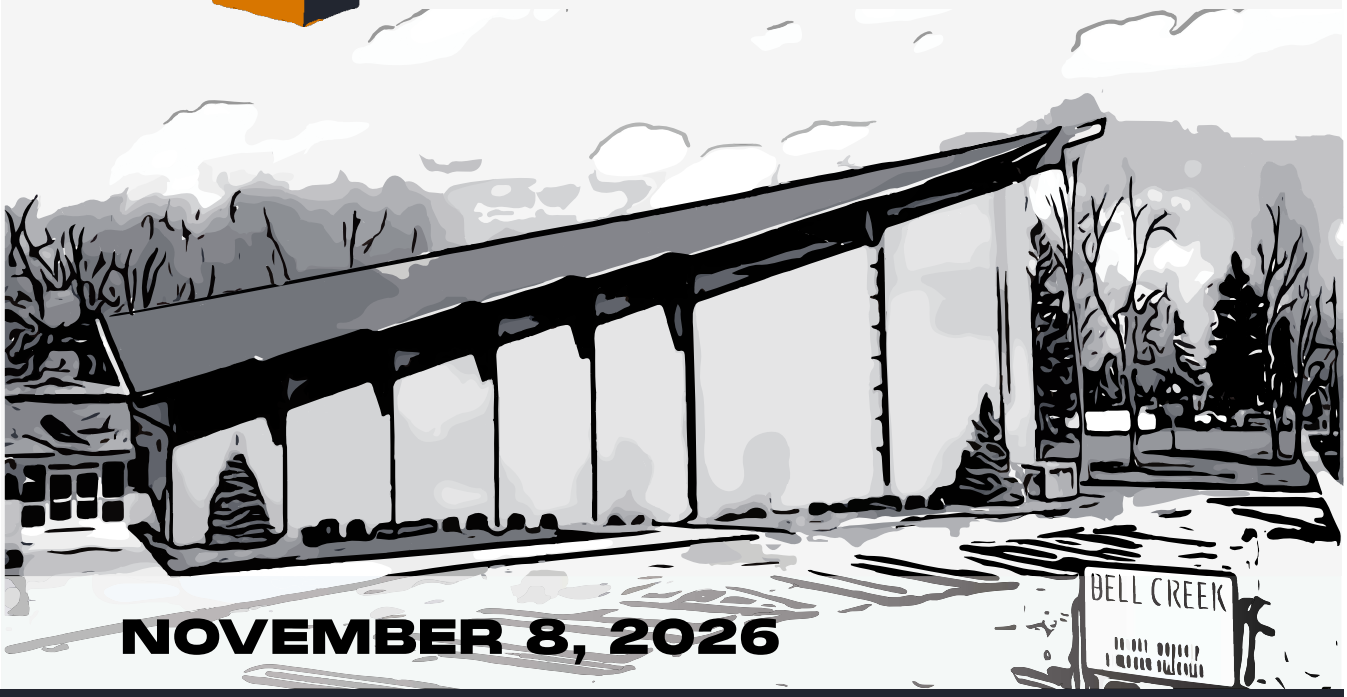
WELCOME TO

BELL CREEK
Community Church



NOVEMBER 8, 2026

THE KING FEEDS HIS FLOCK
MARK 6:30–44

SERMON BY: PASTOR FRED WRIGHT

CURRENT SERMON SERIES:
WONDERS OF THE KING — THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

THE KING FEEDS HIS FLOCK
MARK 6:30–44

The King is Compassionate

The King Commands His Servants to Provide

The King Satisfies His People

FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Mark 6:45-52 and Matthew 14:22-33.

DAILY CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE READING

NOVEMBER 8: MATTHEW 25
NOVEMBER 9: MATTHEW 26; MARK 14
NOVEMBER 10: LUKE 22; JOHN 13
NOVEMBER 11: JOHN 14-17
NOVEMBER 12: MATTHEW 27; MARK 15
NOVEMBER 13: LUKE 23; JOHN 18-19
NOVEMBER 14: MATTHEW 28; MARK 16

UPCOMING AT THE CREEK

ETHICS SEMINAR

If you are intested in learning how to apply Scripture to your daily life and think bibically about tough issues, join Pastor Dylan for a seminar about Ethics. Class meets at 11:00 AM in the Prayer Room on Sundays.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Pastor Dylan's Systematic Theology class will begin on Sunday, October 18 from 6:00-7:30 PM in the Prayer Room.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Our Young Adult group is for adults 18-30 years old, and will now meet twice a month! Our next gathering is Sunday, November 8, after the second service in the Prayer Room. Join us as we gather and build friendships with other young people in a fun and laid-back environment!

BOXES OF LOVE OUTREACH

Our annual Boxes of Love outreach begins today through Wednesday, November 18. This year we have another opportunity to bless 100 families in need throughout Livonia, Redford, and Dearborn Heights with a Thanksgiving meal. Each box will include not only ingredients for a delicious meal, but also a Gospel presentation, and an invitation to join us at Bell Creek for worship.

If you would like to participate, simply sign up, pick up an empty box and shopping list in the gym, and purchase the items listed. Each box will also include a $20 certificate that can be redeemed for a turkey or ham. A $20 contribution is requested for each box. Payment may be made by cash or check payable to Bell Creek Community Church. Please place your payment inside your completed box or in the basket on the table at the back of the gym by 7:45 PM on Wednesday, November 18. For questions, please contact Amanda Rice at amanda@bellcreek.org.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING OUTREACH & DINNER

Bell Creek's 4th Annual Christmas Caroling Outreach and Dinner is Saturday, December 5. We will meet at church at 4:00 PM and return from caroling around 6:00 PM for dinner. We will have crafts/activities for the children as well. Sign up at bellcreek.org or in the gym with Audrey Rodgers after services today.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER MEETINGS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:30 PM
FRIDAYS 12 NOON

PRE–TEEN & MIDDLE SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM
SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP
2ND SERVICE

AWANA

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM
SEPTEMBER-MAY

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS 11:00 AM

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS AT BELLCREEK.ORG

OUR MISSION

MATTHEW 22:37–40

He said to him, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and prophets depend on these two commandments.”

MATTHEW 28:19–20

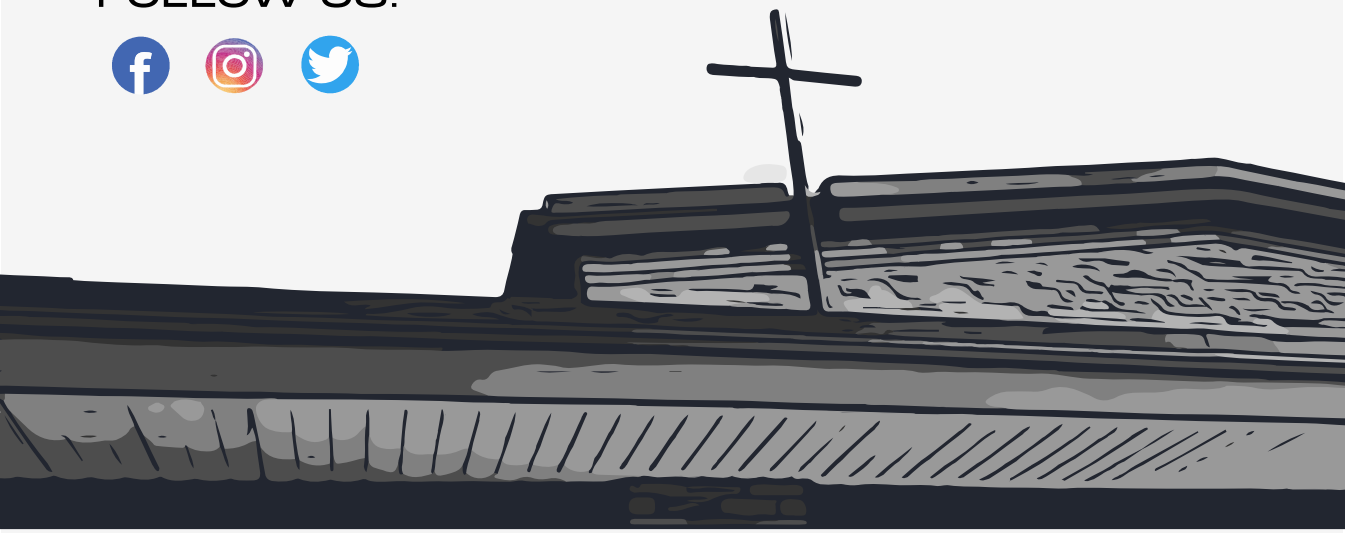
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am with you always to the end of the age.

STAY CONNECTED

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU HERE!

WWW.BELLCREEK.ORG/CONTACT–US

FOLLOW US!



BELL CREEK
Community Church

30000 FIVE MILE RD.
LIVONIA, MI 48154

Sermon Series | Wonders of the King – the Miracles of Jesus

Sunday, November 8, 2026 | The King Feeds His Flock

Mark 6:30-44

The King is Compassionate

"The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat." (Mark 6:30–31, ESV)

[Show Picture of the Sea of Galilee Region]

> Where were they? The feeding of the five thousand in Mark 6:30–44 most likely occurred on the northeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee, in the region traditionally associated with the city of Bethsaida. Imagine gently rising, grassy hillsides overlooking the Sea of Galilee, few nearby settlements, and green grass (6:39). The people weren't in a barren desert. The Greek word erēmos (desolate) describes a lonely, isolated, or uninhabited place.
>
> So, Jesus and his disciples had withdrawn to an isolated area near Bethsaida, probably along the northeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Although they were not far from civilization, they were in a place with scarce resources.

"And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them."(Mark 6:32–33, ESV)

> If you had seen or even heard from reliable sources about a good man who taught about the Kingdom of God and taught the Scriptures with truth and authority, One who had the power to heal any sickness or disease and who made evil spirits flee, wouldn't you run to get to Him for yourself or for someone you loved? Of course you would! So would I, especially if I had heard that this man might be the promised Messiah.

"When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things." (Mark 6:34, ESV)

> This is our King. He speaks with authority. Healing and power are in His hands. He sees this great gathering of people: confused, lost, hurting, with no one to lead them. They are like sheep without a shepherd. *And He has compassion on them*. *Compassion* is being deeply moved by another's suffering, distress, or need, accompanied by a desire to alleviate that suffering or meet that need. So, compassion is more than feeling sorry for someone. It involves both an *inward* response of sympathy and an *outward* inclination to act. In Mark 6:34, the Greek verb translated "had compassion" is σπλαγχνίζομαι (splagchnizomai), which describes a deep, heartfelt response to another person's suffering or need. This is our King! He is compassionate! He doesn't despise or

mock us for our weaknesses. He is *moved* by our suffering, distress, and needs, and He acts to help us.

It says, "And he began to teach them many things." What was Jesus teaching them? From the parallel account in Luke, we know He was teaching them "about the Kingdom of God." He would be telling them that the Kingdom of God has come near to them in the Person of King Jesus Himself. He IS the King of the Kingdom. He would be describing this Kingdom to them, a Kingdom totally unlike the Kingdoms of the world. The proud, the powerful, and those content with their own righteousness aren't interested in hearing the King. In His Kingdom, the humble, the poor in Spirit, those who know they are weak and need help, and those who know they are sinners in need of forgiveness are welcome. Next, He calls them to prepare to enter His Kingdom by repenting of their sins and having faith (trust) in the King of the Kingdom. We might imagine people hearing Him say, "God's reign is here. Turn to him. Trust him. Come under his care." And while He is teaching them, they grow hungry…

The King Commands His Servants to Provide

"And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."" (Mark 6:35–36, ESV)

"But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?"" (Mark 6:37, ESV)

Why did Jesus command the disciples to feed this crowd when it was clearly impossible? Think about that for a moment! The disciples' (somewhat sarcastic) answer is: "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread?" 200 denarii would be 200 days' wages, $30K-$50K. And where would they buy it?

"And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish."" (Mark 6:38, ESV)

A ridiculously small amount of food. Why did Jesus even have them bother? He is provoking their faith. It is utterly impossible for the disciples to feed this crowd. So Who can?

The King Satisfies His People

"Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties." (Mark 6:39–40, ESV)

Why did He have them sit in "groups by hundreds and by fifties?" I don't know exactly, but here are a couple of ideas: In Exodus 18:21, Moses is instructed to appoint leaders over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. Similarly, Deuteronomy 1:15 describes Moses appointing leaders over these divisions. It may be that Jesus is doing this to remind the people that just as their ancestors were wandering in the wilderness during the Exodus and God provided Moses as their shepherd, there is now another Exodus about to begin, a greater one; one that leads out of the captivity of sin

and darkness into the Kingdom of God. And now a greater Shepherd than Moses has come to lead them!

"So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all." (Mark 6:40–41, ESV)

"And they all ate and were satisfied." (Mark 6:42, ESV)

This reminds us of a lot of Old Testament imagery:

Exodus 16:12–18: Manna in the Wilderness. God miraculously provides bread for his hungry people in the wilderness. All have enough.

2 Kings 4:42–44: Elisha Feeds One Hundred. A small amount of bread feeds a multitude, with food left over. Jesus is greater than Elisha.

Ruth 2:14: Ruth Eats and Is Satisfied. Boaz graciously provides for Ruth. She eats until satisfied and has some left over.

Psalm 23:1–2: The Shepherd Provides. The LORD makes his sheep lie down in green pastures and provides for their needs. Jesus fulfills this shepherd imagery.

Psalm 78:19–29: A Table in the Wilderness. Israel asks, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?" Jesus proves He can!

Psalm 107:4–9: God Satisfies the Hungry. God rescues his wandering, hungry people and fills them with good things.

Isaiah 25:6: At the end of all things, God promises a great feast for all peoples. Jesus' miraculous feeding anticipates the coming kingdom banquet!

"And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men." (Mark 6:43–44, ESV)

But here's something really important. Yes, King Jesus is a compassionate King. He can provide bread for the hungry even in a desolate place, but He does immeasurably more for His people. For, He Himself is the Bread of Life. These people's greatest need was not food for their stomachs but salvation for their souls. They needed more than bread to sustain their physical lives for another day. They needed the Savior who could give them eternal life. And that is precisely why Jesus came. As He would later declare in John 6:51, "And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The King who compassionately fed the crowd would ultimately give His own body on the cross to save His people from their sins. He came not just to satisfy their hunger but to give Himself so that sinners might live forever.

Some Questions for us:

When Jesus calls us to do something beyond our ability or resources, will we admit we can't do it, and trust Him to provide what we need to obey?

We look to so many things to satisfy our souls, but many of us know, from hard experience, that nothing in this world will ultimately satisfy. Nothing lasts forever! People, institutions, money, and possessions will all fail us. We need something; rather, *we need Someone* Who is better and lasting! Have you come to Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, who alone can satisfy your deepest need and grant you eternal life?

Finally, when you find yourself in a desolate place, lonely and overwhelmed by your needs, unable to see a way forward, trust your compassionate Shepherd, who sees you, knows your need, and will never abandon you!