

Boulevard United Methodist Church



The mission of the church, in very large measure, is the task of interpretation. Its business is to point out the idols in the marketplace, the tyrannies within people and in the land where they dwell, and to point toward the particular times and places where God is at work freeing the slaves. Its business is to open the deaf ears and the blind eyes – and not least of all its own.

- David Baily Harned

July 28, 2018

10th Sunday after Pentecost
4:00 pm at Fox Elementary

Greeting

Opening Words

Sing a new song to the Lord,
God's praise in the gathering of the faithful!
For the Lord delights in the people,
and crowns the poor with salvation!
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,
shout for joy and take their rest. Alleluia!

Hymn *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

Time with Children

Prayer

Interlude

Reading Psalm 149

Scripture John 6:1-15

Sermon Rev. Drew Willson

Song *Para San Romero* (Jim Hewitt)

Offering Tithes & Gifts

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The Lord's Supper

Hymn *City of God*

Dismissal with Blessing

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God...

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus...

And so,
in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit on us, and pour out your Spirit on these gifts...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER



Schoolhouse Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

WHAT ARE THEY AMONG SO MANY? - John 6:9

One of those church signs photographed and shared online, asks: “Will you give God your fish sandwich?” Cute. Still, there is a character limit to letter boards in more than one sense and perhaps this is why the question posed to passer-byers fails to convey what is at stake in the sixth chapter of John’s gospel.

If the story about a boy who gave his provisions to Jesus only means to tell us that we, like this youngin’, ought to give to God our filet o’ fish, well, that would be do-able. It would be far easier than having to reckon with the fact that there are these moments in life when we reach the end of our knowledge and yet the situation demands further attention.

Andrew wonders what good they are, the five loaves and two fish, in the face of thousands who need to eat; at which point he is you and me when our know-how runs out and despair jumps at the chance to fill the vacuum. If that is not a current reality, chances are you remember when.

Yeah, I’d rather give God my fish sandwich than have to sit with Andrew’s question. “What are they among so many?” *If you want us to meet this need than we need more. As in more energy, more people, more favorable math on the front end.*

While God can and does make a way, the pitfall of saying so, here, is: The way that God makes tends to involve us. In other words, we don’t always get to sit down while God steps in and saves the day.

I have this image in my mind of Andrew’s chest tightening when he realizes that not only is this whole thing a set-up—they shouldn’t be in this situation to begin with—but Jesus expects *them* to work it out or to collapse trying. No doubt, they were tired.

Maybe this was the day they learned about the something else that appears where our can-do ends. Which wasn’t disbelieving in despair as much as it was awakening to the fact that love also sees the opening. Love makes things happen.

E’er this gets to sounding naive, put down the fish sandwich, pick up the gospel, and give God the gift of your freshly humbled self.

John 6

⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, ‘Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?’ ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, ‘Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.’ ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹‘There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?’ ¹⁰Jesus said, ‘Make the people sit down.’

NURTURE

caring for one another and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Alexa Slonin, Nancy Tate, Susan Hageman, the family of Jim Rickards, Dan Rohrer & his family, and those grieving Ben Harmrick. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH for infants - 5 year olds begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). Guardians are asked to walk children to Ms. LaRonda at the end of the hallway. They rejoin us for Communion.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER in numbers:

	Ministry Costs	Your Contributions
July 1 - 21	15,017	20,819

July's numbers reflect the deposit of a grant that we were awarded last year for this year. We chose to pay one of our larger bills this month, given this infusion of funds.

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}



LATE JULY AND EARLY AUGUST is for school supplies. Gifts designated for mission or marked "school supplies" will help two local schools equip our children. Why do we collect money rather than ask you to shop? Doing it this way allows administrators and teachers to tell us what they need and for Boulevard to plan our buying and distributing accordingly.

Online givers: You can select the "monthly mission" option and your gift will make it into this collection.