

11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY- PROPER 14

08/12/18

*Mount Calvary, West View*

I KINGS 19:1-8, EPHESIANS 4:17-5:2, JOHN 6: 35-51

Theme: Bread of Life II

**+ Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN +**

Our Text is the continuation of St. John's Gospel, the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter:

*Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." But I said to you, That you have seen me, and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will in never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him Who sent Me. And this is the will of Him Who sent Me, that I should lose nothing of all that He has given Me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of the Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life: and I will raise him up on the last day.*

Still in John, and that is OK, since Mark is so short, we may just run out of readings if not for John.

Jesus is still addressing the crowds from Last Week, still impressing upon them that they need to look to Jesus as the Savior of souls, and not just an earthly king.

This is very difficult to do. Yes, even today, for we want a God to take care of every need, and when He does not, we want to be able to complain. Is He not the provider of all things, and does He not already know what we need before we even ask? Then why do I suffer so? Why do I not get what I want? Ah, the difference between want and needs. It is hard sometimes to see the difference, but God is never wrong. He has been at this game of sustaining creation for a much longer time than you have been around, so it stands to reason that He knows what is best for you and everyone you care about, and though He has been around *forever*, He has not made a mistake.

This reminder that Jesus gives in our text, *I said to you, That you have seen me, and yet do not*

*believe*, compels us to remember that God does give us everything, but just like the Israelites in the wilderness, we see signs but do not commit body heart and soul to the Savior that makes all these gifts possible. We murmur just as often ó if not more than ó the Israelites, and as long as we think we have something to do with our Salvation, we will be lost eternally to eternal death and separation from God. He does not want that, so He does everything possible to help you see and believe in the One He has sent. To accomplish this, He sends the Holy Ghost to you in Word and Sacrament ministry. He gives you the Sacrament of your baptism to know you are a forgiven child of the Heavenly Father. He gives you the Word to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest; simply put, to believe. He gives you the Bread of Life in the sacrament of the Altar, to receive again the Salvation of your soul to all who Believe in the real presence of Christ Jesus from the cross.

There is the key to everything! You cannot be lost, nor forgotten, if Jesus has died for your sins and rose for your comfort. This world wants you to rely on self, Jesus wants you to believe and rely on Him. There is a commercial that shows a bunch of sports celebrations and captions the copy: the world asks why, sport says why not? Maybe we need to promote Christianity as such. The world asks why we eat and drink Christ, Christians say, here is the Bread of Life and eternal at that. All people are given the call to repent, and thereby all people are given the call to receive eternal life. All people are called to eat and to drink Christ in with and under the forms of bread and wine so that you can receive what they promise, eternal life, and a resurrection to Salvation on the last day. And all people are given the opportunity to examine themselves and trust in Jesus Christ alone for Salvation.

Sealed for the day of redemption, Jesus promised that He would come back to receive you to Himself. The eating of His flesh keeps us in the memory of His death, till He comes to give us life. May we always see His work in our Sacraments, and may we share the work in us, with those who need to see Jesus as He is. In our Triune God's Name, we pray. **AMEN.**

+ AND NOW MAY THE PEACE OF GOD WHICH SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING  
KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS IN UNION WITH CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.  
AMEN+

**There are only two days on my calendar...today and the day of judgment**