



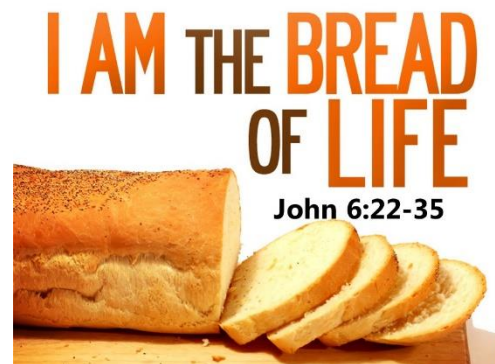
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 1, 2021

"Sir," they said, "give us that bread every day of our lives."
Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry again. Those who believe in me will never thirst." (John 6:34-35)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Just as there are physical hungers, there also are spiritual hungers. When our bodies are without food, we become weak and disoriented. And when our spirits aren't fed, our lives become confused and our moral strength falters. This Sunday we have one of the great "I am" sayings of Jesus. Every time we read our Bibles we are feeding on the Word of God. Every time we share in the sacrament of Holy Communion, we are feeding on the body and blood of our Lord and Savior. And every time we share our



resources with those in need, we are feeding Jesus himself. Yes indeed, he is the true bread from heaven that nourishes the true spiritual hunger of our lives.

- **Join us this Sunday, Worship Service 9:30 A.M.** Pastor Martins Irbe
- **Scripture Readings**
 - Exodus 16:2-15
 - Ephesians 4:4-16
 - John 6:22-35
- **Happening Around St. James**
 - Children's Sunday School is recessed til mid-August**
 - Adult Forum resumes this week. We will continue Joining Jesus on His mission. All are welcome.**
- **St James Website is Up and Running.** Let me encourage everyone to visit our new and updated website. We think it is attractive and informative and we hope it will be used fully. We are keeping it current and fresh and there will be links added for the bulletin, newsletter and this weekend update. Please check it out.
- **Vacation Bible School was a wonderful experience for all.** The kids were excited and enthusiastic and very responsive to whatever we were doing. And the crew leaders were engaging and with the kids on every level. We hope to share some

pictures and songs at this Sunday's service. Jesus Power did pull us through. Thank you to one and all. And give glory and praise to the Spirit's presence with us.

- **Pew Bibles are in the works.** We are hoping to place Bibles in the pews for worshippers to use before or during the services. Because this expense is not in the worship budget we are asking for special donations to make this happen. I believe we need about \$500. So far, we have \$100. The Bibles are about \$10 a piece. Maybe you can give one. Maybe 10. Whatever you do will be a blessing.
- **Sunday School Volunteers are Needed this fall.** It looks like we will have a preschool through 2nd grade class, a 3rd through 6th grade class and a confirmation class. We are now looking for someone(s) to teach the 3rd through 6th grade class and someone to help me lead the confirmation group. If interested contact me for more information. What an opportunity to help make a difference in the spiritual formation of our young disciples.
- **Mission Opportunity. Thank you! Thank you!** Because of your generosity we have received \$850. With matching funds from our BMO account, we will be sending \$1,450 to our brothers and sisters in Ethiopia. They will be able to purchase the computer that will be used for the seminary now and in the future. This comes at a particularly critical time, in that there is a great deal of conflict throughout the country as well as a devastating famine
- **Bible Studies**
 - **Women's Bible Study** Mondays at 11 A.M.
 - **Men's Bible Study Gathers** . . .at 9 A.M. on Tuesdays.
 - **Additional Bible Study Opportunity.** . . included with this weekly update is a bible study for you to use in the comfort of your home.
- **Continue to Hold our Church in Prayer** as we await someone who can be a pastoral candidate. May the Holy Spirit move strong in our midst & in the heart of the person who will take the reins of pastoral leadership of St James. In the near future we will be sharing in a Bible Study on the Biblical understanding on the blessing and use of times of waiting.
- **Greetings from the HMD Council** for the month of July 2021. Include in your prayers
 - There is so much pain and conflict across the Middle East. We pray for leaders throughout the region to turn their hearts towards peace.
 - Pray for blessings for the Heartland Mission District (HMD) congregation of Antioch Lutheran Church in Hoagland Indiana and Pastor David Taylor.
 - Pray for the Life-to-Life Discipleship Team's effort in developing disciple-making congregations and cultures as part of the NALC's 2020 Vision.
 - Continue to pray for guidance, support and strength from the Holy Spirit for HMD seminarian Ben Black.

Thank you all for your prayers.

I can be contacted at pastorstjamesnalc@gmail.com, or by phone 317 727-0612, or calling the St James office.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Doug