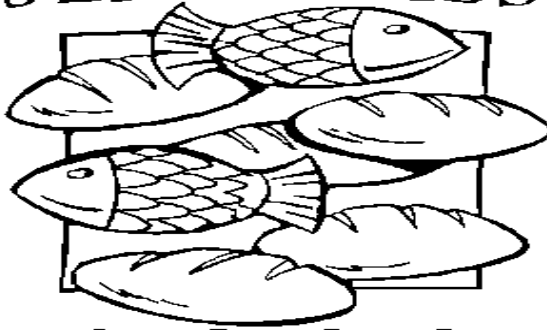


# JESUS FEEDS



# 5,000

*August 6, 2023*

*Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ*

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## *Sunday Morning Meditation*

Compassion is living within the skin of another person, if only temporarily. Walking a mile in their proverbial moccasins. It involves responding to their weaknesses with a little extra understanding, rather than simply 'reacting' to those words and actions that so irritate you or try your patience.

– Thomas and Nanette Kinkade

*The Many Loves of Parenting (2003)*

**Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ**

**August 6, 2023**



## *Prayer of Reflection and Transformation (Confession)*

**Dear God, the creator of all things based on love, you created us in your image of love. There have been times we have fallen short of that love, not only to you but to each other and all of creation. I ask for your forgiveness and from you, present today, my siblings, sisters and brothers in Christ. I thank you for the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy Spirit to do better in bringing love and grace and all I do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## *Words of Grace*

Scripture tells us if we are “kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, God in Christ has forgiven us”. Rest assured, my friends, our sins are forgiven. Amen.

## *Old Testament Reading*

**Genesis 32:22-31 NIV**

### *Jacob Wrestles With God*

<sup>22</sup> That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. <sup>24</sup> So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. <sup>26</sup> Then the man said, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.”

But Jacob replied, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”

<sup>27</sup> The man asked him, “What is your name?”

“Jacob,” he answered.

<sup>28</sup> Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.”

<sup>29</sup> Jacob said, “Please tell me your name.”

But he replied, “Why do you ask my name?” Then he blessed him there.

<sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, “It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared.”

<sup>31</sup> The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.

\* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

**Matthew 14:13-21 NIV**

*Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)*

**TH #497**

*Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand*

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

<sup>15</sup> As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

<sup>17</sup> “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

<sup>18</sup> “Bring them here to me,” he said. <sup>19</sup> And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. <sup>20</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. <sup>21</sup> The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

\* *Gloria Patri*

*Children's Message / Congregation Conversation*

\* *Meditation Hymn*

**“God Himself Is With Us”**

**PH #3**

## *Today's Message*

### \* *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### *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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

### *Sung Response*

*"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

TH # 501

## *The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings*

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

\* Doxology

TH # 551

\* Offertory Prayer

**O Holy One, with gratefulness we offer and dedicate these gifts for the continuation of our work in Christ's Name.**

**Amen.**

\* *Closing Hymn*

*"Nothing But the Blood"*

VH #122

\* *Benediction*

Dear friends, we have been nourished in the love of God who created us, God who redeemed us, and God who sustains us. Go in peace, sharing the Good News. Amen.

\* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

\* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*

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**For Compassion:** Service Prayers for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost was written by Rev. Roberto Ochoa, the Minister for Ethnic Inclusion, & Congregational Support for Rural and Small Churches for the National Setting of the United Church of Christ. He is a member of Mt. Zion Congregational UCC in Cleveland, OH.