

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"The Bread of Life"

By Pastor Rick Rostek, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Because of the amount of wheat our state produces, Kansas is often referred to as the "bread-basket of the world". Sure enough, much of the wheat produced in Kansas, including Norton County's recent bountiful harvest, will end up on many dining room tables in the form of bread. Bread is a staple for most Americans. We use bread to make sandwiches, accompany our pasta, and sop up the juices of a hearty roast beef and potatoes meal. Yet, no matter how we consume our bread, soon enough we are hungry again, in need of more bread, more sustenance.

After feeding the 5000, Jesus was confronted with a group of people who wanted just that—more food. They had eaten their fill but were hungry again. Jesus said to them, "Do not labor for food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life" (John 6:27). Immediately, they wanted to know what they had to do to receive such

bread. That's the nature of humanity, always wanting to earn our salvation. "What must we do to earn God's favor?" The truth is that because of sin, humans are totally unable to earn God's favor. We are lost in

our condition. Thankfully, Jesus showed them what the true work of God is: to believe in the One whom He has sent (John 6:29). And the One whom God has sent is the bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world

(John 6:33). Then Jesus tied it all together, saying, "I am the bread of life; whoever believes in me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall not thirst" (John 6:35).

This is now the greatest of news. Jesus tells us that by faith we receive the bread of life; that is, we receive Jesus. And not only do we receive Jesus, we receive what He has done for us. Through His death on the cross, Jesus accomplished what we humans cannot do. He saved us from our sin. We receive this eternal bread when we hear God's word and believe the promises God has made to us through Jesus Christ.

Food for our bodies is certainly good for us and is evidence of God's gracious provision for our daily lives. But the food that does not spoil is the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ. He is the evidence of God's eternal love for us. Believe in Jesus and you will never hunger or thirst.

The Right Ingredients

You are trying a new cake recipe. You combine the ingredients and pour the batter in baking pans. When the time arrives to remove the finished product, your face falls as you discover something resembling a pancake! Then you remember...you left out an ingredient, the one ingredient that would have made all the difference.

Do you ever feel that way...like something is missing from your life? Wouldn't it be wonderful if you could find the right ingredient, one that could make your spirit rise to new heights? We read in Psalm 121:1-2... "I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

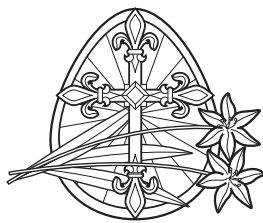
Is the Lord missing from your life? Worship this week at His house and let your spirit soar!



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	1 Thessalonians 2:1-16	1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:13	1 Thessalonians 4:1-18	1 Thessalonians 5:1-28	2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	2 Thessalonians 2:1-17

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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