

Bread of life



St Aidan's Uniting Church
18th August 2024

Call to Worship

Jesus said,
'I am the bread of life'
and invited us to the feast,
and impromptu meal
where there was plenty for all.

**We come together
to be fed spiritually,
knowing there is more than enough
for all our needs,
and together we worship God.**

Prayers

Bread of life,
teach us again to feed on you,
to feed on your love,
your compassion,
your passion,
your hope.

Nourish us so we grow,
beyond focus on our physical needs
and towards spiritual health
and the fullness of life you offer.

Forgive us when we judge others
because their need for food and water
is their primary focus;
or their fear
for where they will sleep tonight
overshadows their ability to grow spiritually;
or their loneliness gets in the way
of knowing they are truly loved by you.

Bread of life,
remind us of your abundance

and help us,
like your disciples,
to share from your abundance,
so that all may have enough.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Jesus said to them:
I am the living bread:
The bread of life that satisfies.

Know that you are filled with the bread of heaven,
you are loved and forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Intercession

Christ, who fed the people
on the shores of Galilee,
today there are people
who do not have enough to eat,
and without enough to eat
they do not have the emotional space
to build their relationship with you.

Christ, who taught the people
on the shores of Galilee,
today there are people
who have no community
and no one who loves them,
and without that community
they do not truly know
what it is to be loved,
so they do not have the emotional space
to build their relationship with you.

Christ, who built up people
on the shores of Galilee,

today there are people
who have little self-esteem
or self-worth,
or self-confidence,
and because they do not feel worthy
they do not have the emotional space
to build their relationship with you.

Christ, who taught disciples
on the shores of Galilee,
today there are people
who seek to follow you
and ask, "where else would we go?"
when others fall away;
teach us to follow closely,
to feed, to love, to esteem,
so that others may also come to the space
where they can build a relationship with you.
Amen.

Benediction & Blessing

We go out fed,
not with a great feast,
but with a symbolic feast,
a feast that leaves us hungry.

But do not just hunger for food –
hunger for justice –
and keep hungering for justice
until all are fed.

And as you go, may you always know:
the love of God surrounds you,
Christ, the Companion, walks with you
and the Spirit leads you on the dance of life.