



August 2nd - Enough

There is a question that quietly follows many of us through life: Will there be enough? Enough time. Enough money. Enough strength. Enough faith. Sometimes the question becomes even more personal: Am I enough? The disciples knew that question well. Standing before a crowd of more than five thousand people with only five loaves and two fish, they looked at what they had and concluded, “This isn’t enough.” They saw scarcity. Jesus saw people.

Matthew tells us that when Jesus saw the crowd, “he had compassion for them.” The Greek word is σπλαγχνίζομαι (*splanchnizomai*), meaning to be moved in the deepest part of one’s being. Before there was a miracle, there was compassion. Jesus’ heart was moved toward people who were weary, hurting, and searching for hope.

When the disciples urged Jesus to send the crowd away, He responded with surprising words: “You give them something to eat.” They could only see what they lacked. Jesus invited them to place what little they had into His hands. That invitation still speaks to us today. We often measure our lives by what we think is missing: our time, our abilities, our resources, or even our faith. Yet Jesus does not ask us to create abundance on our own. He simply says, “Bring what you have to me.”

Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it. The Greek word for bread, ἄρτος (*artos*), reminds us that Christ continues to nourish His people, not only with daily bread but with His very presence. At the Lord’s Table, He gives Himself freely to us.

The result was more than enough. Matthew says that everyone ate and was satisfied. The Greek word χορτάζω (*chortazō*) means to be filled completely, to have one’s deepest hunger satisfied. In God’s kingdom there is not merely enough to get by; there is an abundance of grace.

Over these first weeks of serving as your Vicar, I have experienced that abundance through you. Your warm welcome, your encouragement, your hospitality, and your kindness have been gifts of Christ to me. Thank you for helping make Grace Lutheran Church feel like home.

As we continue this journey together, I come not because I have all the answers, but because Christ has called us to walk together as His disciples. Like those first disciples, we may sometimes wonder whether what we bring is enough. This passage reminds us that ministry has never depended on the size of our resources but on the greatness of our Savior.

Whatever you carry today- your worries, grief, questions, fears, or hopes- bring them to Jesus. The One whose heart is moved with σπλαγχνίζομαι deep compassion still sees you. The One who takes ordinary ἄρτος daily bread, still provides for His people. The One who satisfies with χορτάζω complete fullness, still fills the deepest hunger of our hearts.

In Christ, there is always enough not because of what we have, but because of who He is. His grace is enough. His mercy is enough. His forgiveness is enough. His love is enough. Amen!