

to all their problems; that of sin (which is separation from God) and being at war with God. All the disciples saw were five barley loaves and two fish. Having failed to draw compassion out of their faith and trust in Him, Jesus proceeded with the miracle. Jesus blessed the food, broke the bread and fish, and gave them to the Apostles to distribute. This was truly more than meeting their physical needs. First this miracle connected to the Chosen People in the wilderness, and second Jesus used this miracle as an object lesson for the disciples. He demonstrated His compassion for all people. He displayed His willingness to do the work through His compassion that would lead to true peace with God.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

© O God, our God, by Your Spirit all things are ordered in Your kingdom, so that if it should be done, it is done. Mercifully hear our prayer, and to this end, pour out Your Holy Spirit on us; that we may draw from Him and speak the words that need to be spoken, call on You for those in need and especially that our words of praise will be worthy of Your hearing.

Grant through Your Holy Spirit that Your Word would come to Your church, that Your people would hear it from Christ-like teachers with the ears of faith, and, turning to You in the fullness of love and trust, may know Your will, repent of their transgressions and iniquities and amend their ways by obedience to Your commands.

By Your Holy Spirit, give all such spiritual gifts as are necessary to the witness and work of Your church, so that there may always be; abundant wisdom and knowledge, faith and health, prophecy and miracles, judgment and light. May the knowledge of You go forth, and may people of every nation, kindred, tribe, or realm learn of Your glory.

Let the Words of our Lord Jesus be taught daily in all homes, that both parents and children may grow in grace through the knowledge of He Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Give Your blessing to all useful labor in industry and agriculture, education and science, the professions and the arts, that in their advancement Your people may be prospered. Be with those who make and uphold the laws of our land, that their decisions are made in Your will and for Your purpose.

Look in mercy on the sick and the hurt, those who sorrow or mourn, the handicapped and the infirm, and hear their cry, be their ever present help in the time of danger.

Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. **(Time of silent prayer.)**

All this we ask in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

© **Amen.**

PROPER THIRTEEN

Chant Tone



Introit

O give thanks to the Lord; call up | on His name;*

Make known His deeds among the — peoples!

He spread a cloud for a — covering,* and fire to give | light by night.

They asked, and He brought — quail,* and gave them bread from Heaven in a — bundance.

He opened the rock, and water — gushed out;*

it flowed through the desert like a — river.

For He remembered His holy — promise,* and Abraham, His — servant.

So He brought His people | out with joy,* His chosen ones with — singing.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy — Spirit;

as it was in the be — ginning,* is now, and will be forever. — Amen.

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call up | on His name;*

make known His deeds among the — peoples!

*(Antiphon, Psalm 105:1;
Psalm 105:39-43)*

Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Gradual

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and know | ledge of God!*

How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscruta | ble His ways!

For from Him and through Him and to Him | are all things.*

To Him be glory forever. — Amen.

(Romans 11:33, 36)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: Lord God, heavenly Father, source of all our supply, Creator and Sustainer of our life, accept the praise of our lips and the gratitude of our hearts. Your mercies are new every morning, and Your kindness watches over us every night. You send us our daily bread and have given us the Bread of life in Your Son Jesus Christ. For these constant evidences of Your Love we praise Your most Holy name. Strengthen our faith in Jesus, Whom You have sent, and help us proclaim Him to the world as the Bread of life. O Lord, heal the sick, grant assurance to the hopeless, be the companion of the lonely and hear our prayers. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

JESUS FED ABOUT "5,000 MEN, BESIDE WOMEN AND CHILDREN... AND THEY ALL ATE AND WERE SATISFIED." On January 12, 2010 a magnitude 7 earthquake shook the nation of Haiti. The U.S. responded by sending in 4 ships and 2,200 Marines to help feed the displaced people. They joined the 1,100 Army Soldiers who were dispatched immediately to provide relief. Many years later, one problem after another still plagues the people of Haiti. When Jesus fed the 5,000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish, they ate and were satisfied. Which just goes to show that no amount of military might can solve the world's problems. Only the wonder of the shed Blood of Jesus can bring relief to the suffering.

THEME OF THE DAY:

The Work of Compassion

INTROIT—(Antiphon: Psalm 105:1;) Psalm 105:39-43

Psalm 105 was likely written by David and connects to 1 Chronicles 16. It was written when the Ark was moved to its permanent location in the Temple in Jerusalem. We are reminded that God willingly fed the people in the wilderness with quail and manna. Plus at one point He gave them water from a rock. All done to display His compassion.

COLLECT

We haven't earned any goodness from God, but because of His great grace and love He serves our least and greatest needs. For this we are as grateful as we can be and we serve Him in willing obedience.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Isaiah 55:1-5

God invites people to receive something precious, even priceless, without buying, this includes peace of mind through peace with God. Jesus has redeemed us with His blood and righteousness. No labor or money on our part will earn or buy our life from the wrath and punishment we deserve. We were so fully lost to sin, so fully committed to the war against God that nothing could buy us back. God has compassion. His Love for His creation saves us. The food of salvation the food of peace with God is prepaid and ready. It is offered to us without cost. Come and receive, eat and drink in the compassion of Christ.

GRADUAL—Romans 11:33, 36

The connection to our theme for today is wisdom and knowledge. There is treasure in the life knowledge of God, the knowledge of God comes only through the work of Jesus who brought us out of war into the victory of compassion, the peace and plenty of life in God.

EPISTLE LESSON—Romans 9:1-13

The theme of the book of Romans is: Justification by grace through faith. In our verses for today, Paul was grieved over the fact that the Jews, who were by definition the Chosen People, had lost their faith in God—by rejecting Jesus—and therefore have lost their chosen status. Paul is therefore raising up reverse missionaries. Faith came from the Jews and now the Gentiles need to return to the Jews with the message of salvation in Jesus. This would be to fulfill the victory of compassion in our hearts. We, having experienced the compassion of God, teach others from our compassion.

GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 14:13-21

The disciples did not fully understand that the source of all good and perfect gifts as He was standing before them. They did not see Jesus as the answer