

We Remember the Bread of Life

Hymn: “I am the Bread of Life”
I am the bread of life, you who come to Me shall not hunger; and who believe in Me shall not thirst. No one can come to Me unless the Father beckons. *Refrain*

Refrain

And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up
And I will raise you up on the last day.

The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever. *Refrain*

Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of man, And drink of His blood, and drink of His blood, you shall not have life within you. *Refrain*

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Reader: The gospel of Mark tells us (14:22): While they were eating, He took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, He broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is My body.” The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

All: Jesus, Divine Bread, each time we gather to break this bread, we share its richness in the midst of our poverty, and we remember:

Leader: We remember who You are as the bread of our lives:

Left Side: You are the One who enters into the hungry places of our hearts, wanting to convince us of Your deep, abiding love.

Right Side: You are the One who invites us constantly to choose life, even when our world, and sometimes our own inner places, tastes of death, pain and weariness.

Left Side: You are the One who becomes our spiritual energy inviting us to yearn for truth and to grow from its treasures.

Leader: We remember how You gift us with this bread:

Right Side: This bread is strength for us when times are tough.

Left Side: This bread must be broken before it can be shared.

Right Side: This bread, when taken within, transforms the quality of our presence.

Left Side: This bread binds us together and tempts us to forgiveness and all the other particles, which gather to form community.

Right Side: This bread, which houses the sacred in common earthen gifts, proclaims that the ordinary is but a mask of the holy.

- Leader:** We remember what this bread asks of us:
- Left Side:** To be patient with our own growth, to recognize the process of our journey, to yield to the nourishment which is waiting for us if we will but come to the table.
- Right Side:** To be Your leaven so that faith can rise in the hearts of others.
- Left Side:** To be so deeply wedded to compassion that our hearts always save a space for the tears of the world.
- Right Side:** To give ourselves fully to the sojourning dimensions of our lives, knowing that the manna of our God is blessing enough for our need, as we yearn for our true home.
- Leader:** And finally, we remember:
- All:** That our hearts are filled with gratitude for this good gift. Within us, all that is holy cries out: Come, Bread of Life, Come!
- Hymn:** “I am the Bread of Life” verses 4-5
- I am the resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in Me, Even though you die, you shall live forever. *Refrain*
- Yes, Lord I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world. *Refrain*

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