

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**July 28, 2024**

**LECTIONARY 17**

### **Will There Be Enough?**

“Will there be enough?” This is perhaps a question as old as humanity itself. Will there be enough money? Enough food? Enough time? It’s a question that threatens to consume our faith communities. Will there be enough volunteers? Enough preachers? Enough money in the offering plate? Enough people in the pews? Will there be enough donations or energy or creativity to carry us through?

We aren’t alone in these fears. The disciples asked the same of Jesus. “Will there be enough to eat?” Surely, a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish could never feed this crowd. Better to send the people away to fend for themselves.

Perhaps like the disciples, we tend to panic and turn inward when resources start to dwindle. And yet, again and again, God calls us together, taking our fears and transforming them into gifts of abundance. A few crumbs become a feast. A hungry crowd becomes a community bearing witness to God’s grace.

This story is an antidote to our anxious times, when we are tempted to cling, to hoard, to squander away resources for an uncertain future. Miraculous things happen when we open our fists and trust that with God, all things are possible.

This is not an easy mindset to hold, so together, we practice! We practice a theology of “enoughness” each week when we share communion with one another. We witness the tremendous power of a little bread and a little wine to sustain us on our journey. We practice generosity when we pass the offering plate, turning our meager offerings into a gift for the greater good. We witness how the gifts and talents of a community come together to create something that on our own would never have been possible. Because, in Christ, there is always more than enough.

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