



Call to worship Psalm 100 : Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Hymn STF407 : Hear the call of the Kingdom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIPxUNOrTYU>

Hear the call of the kingdom, lift your eyes to the King.
Let his song rise within you as a fragrant offering
of how God, rich in mercy, came in Christ to redeem
all who trust in his unfailing grace.

Hear the call of the kingdom to be children of light,
with the mercy of heaven, the humility of Christ;
walking justly before him, loving all that is right;
that the light of Christ may shine through us.

King of heaven, we will answer the call;
we will follow, bringing hope to the world,
filled with passion, filled with power to proclaim
salvation in Jesus' name.

Hear the call of the kingdom to reach out to the lost;
with the Father's compassion, in the wonder of the cross.
Bringing peace and forgiveness and a hope yet to come.
Let the nations put their trust in him.

The Lord's Prayer : Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Introduction - Greetings to you all! It's a joy to gather here today. Let's open in prayer: *Father, guide us as we reflect on Your word today, Amen.* Today's focus is on God's providence, illustrated in the feeding of the 5,000.

Scripture Reading : John 6:1-14 : Sometime after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near. When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So, they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

Title: The Abundant Providence of God

1. God's Awareness of Our Needs : Jesus asked Philip about feeding the crowd, knowing their needs even before they spoke. This shows us that God is always attentive." God is all knowing, always present and all mighty. With him nothing is impossible.

Think about times when you felt God meeting your needs without your asking. There are so many times when we are surprised by God's intervention and providence.

2. The Abundance of God's Provision : With five loaves and two fish, Jesus fed thousands and had 12 baskets of leftovers. This illustrates that God provides abundantly.

Quietly reflect on moments when blessings overflowed in your life unexpectedly.

3. The Power of Ordinary Resources : Jesus used what seemed insignificant—a boy's lunch—to perform a miracle. Our small contributions can lead to great outcomes.

Quietly ask yourself: What ordinary resources do I have that I can offer to help others?

4. Community Participation in God's Providence : The disciples helped distribute the food, emphasizing the importance of community in God's work.

Prayerfully look for opportunities to engage and support those around you. How can we serve together?

5. Trusting in God's Faithfulness : The crowd trusted Jesus for their needs, reminding us to do the same. Trusting in God's past provision strengthens our current faith.

Consider a time when you had to trust God during uncertainty. How did that experience shape your faith?

Conclusion : In summary, God is aware of our needs, provides abundantly, can use our ordinary resources, involves us in community, and calls us to trust Him. Let's commit to recognizing and participating in God's providence this week.

Closing Prayer

Let's pray together. Lord, thank You for Your abundant providence. Help us trust in You and be vessels of Your love and grace. Amen.

Hymn STF409 : Let us build a house

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhPnjA7wsIY>

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions
All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground

where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.

Blessing : The Lord Bless you and Keep you. The Lord Make His face to shine upon you and the Lord give you His peace.
Amen.