

# WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP 3

## TOGETHER THE IMPOSSIBLE IS POSSIBLE!

### **This Week's Gospels**

*Mark 6:32-44, Ephesians 3:20-21*

#### *The Gospel of St. Mark*

<sup>32</sup> And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup> Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. <sup>35</sup> When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; <sup>36</sup> send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." <sup>37</sup> But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" <sup>38</sup> And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." <sup>39</sup> Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. <sup>41</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup> And all ate and were filled, <sup>43</sup> and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. <sup>44</sup> Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men..

#### *The Gospel of Ephesians 3:20-21*

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

## **Homily** by J D Johnson

Were you ever presented with a problem to solve and did not know how to solve it? In Mark 6:32-44, the disciples were faced with a problem of feeding the multitudes. They discovered that there were only five loaves of bread and two fish available to feed everyone. This amount of food might feed one family but would never be able to feed the five thousand men plus women and children gathered to see Jesus teach. But when the disciples went to Jesus for a solution, it was much less hidden. The miracle had already been given to them; they just had to pass the food out.

Now for us in the modern day. One of the many difficult problems we have is people lacking necessities. This is an extremely hard problem to solve because there are so many reasons why people are in this situation, such as loss of employment, lack of education, or addiction. Luckily, God has put resources and means right in front of us as a congregation, so we can share them with others. Personally, I feel that the generosity of people can help alleviate some of the initial problems like funding and public support.

Now for me, a small problem arose when I learned there was a once-in-a-lifetime Scouting opportunity in July of this year. Which was to attend the weeklong Scouting America National Jamboree. This event is held every four years in West Virginia and attended by thousands of Scouts from across the US and around the world. And I wanted to experience it as a youth Scout, not as an adult Scout. The small problem was that this event is expensive for one person to attend, and my parents informed me that I would need to pay for half of it. Not sure about you, but I do not have a lot of money lying around or in my piggy bank. So, I had to find a way to raise money for me to attend and participating in the annual Boy Scout popcorn fundraiser was it. I sold popcorn online and in-person plus my Dad and I held storefront events at Wal-Mart and Bass Pro Shop on two different Saturdays that lasted for at least 6 hours each. We had the wild idea during one of them to sell popcorn on a Sunday during church. So, we reached out to Janelle, and she gave us the green light. Amazingly, we sold more on a Sunday morning at Calvary than the entire day at either Wal-Mart or the Bass Pro Shop.

Just like the disciples were surprised by the amount of people that they were able to feed with only 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish, I too was surprised by Calvary's generosity. Because of your help, I am scheduled to attend the National Jamboree this summer. Calvary gives us as a congregation many ways to be part of God's miracle just like the disciples when they passed out the food to the multitudes. Solutions become visible when you have Jesus around you and faithfully follow through with it. Calvary's miracles can be as simple as donating food to NEED, helping with service projects around the property or at a member's house or singing in the choir. How will you be part of God's miracle?

### **Homily** by Lily Aguilar

Hello! My name is Lily Aguilar, and I am gathered with you today to share the good news of God. More specifically, his generosity, and how he works through us to share that generosity with the world. The passage I am here to talk with our congregation about today is Ephesians 3: 20-21. It says, "Now to him who is able to do far more than all we ask or think according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen." Now, I really like this passage since it shows God's generosity. But, where can we find that generosity in the world?

A while back, around Fall 2025, I saw an article about a coffee shop in Portland named Heretic Coffee Company that raised more than \$184,000 dollars to provide free breakfast for SNAP recipients that were about to lose their benefits. Now, this truly touching story shows us how God works within us to provide for his people. Calvary has also done something similar, in raising a few thousand dollars during the holidays for NEED and the Community Enrichment Center. These feats have made me wonder, "How have I worked to provide for the needs of others?"

I, myself, have worked in many ways to serve my community and God. One example of this would be me making sandwiches for the Presbyterian Night Shelter. For me, that was just a fun activity to pass an hour of time or so. But, for these people, these sandwiches were another chance at survival.

So, I wanted to ask you, how have YOU worked to provide for the needs of others? Have you made quilts for those who have no sort of blankets? Have you gone to your local park and cleaned up litter? What have you done and what can you do to spread God's generosity?

How does God's generosity make you feel? Does it make you feel hopeful? Does it make you feel grateful? Does it make you feel like you aren't alone? For me, his generosity makes me determined to keep trying to spread generosity to others.

God's good news is undeniably one of the best things we hear from The Bible. The good news that, with God, all things are possible. Even things that you think are impossible are possible through him! I hope my homily has helped you see the good news of God and how his generosity can work through you. Have a great night, everyone!

**Offering ELW 793 – *Be Thou My Vision***



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r,  
 thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish 8th–10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.  
 Music: SLANE, Irish tune



## Two Ways to Give

Download the new  
“**Vanco Mobile**” giving app  
from your smart phone’s app store

Give online  
through this **QR code**  
*Use smart phone camera; click link*



### **Worship Leaders**

Homily  
Cantor  
Lector  
Prayers  
Sound

J D Johnson & Lily Aguilar  
Choir  
Anna Gruebmeyer  
Payton Dorchak  
Gary Graeber

**2026 Mid-Week Lenten Series:  
*The Good News Is...***

**Holden Evening Prayer each  
Wednesday @ 7pm during Lent**

March 18 (7pm) – *protection and care for the vulnerable!*  
- Matthew 19:13-15, Deuteronomy 24:17-22

March 25 (7pm) – *rooted in justice, mercy and faithfulness!*  
- John 8:2-11, Matthew 23:23