

Connecting Music to Mass
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 13, 2016

[Click here - Sunday Readings for November 13, 2016](#)

The full Sunday hymn texts are below.

We continue this week with another “end times” set of readings from the lectionary. In the gospel, Jesus speaks of his second coming. He warns against false prophets, and tells of the persecution and destruction that will occur. A poignant statement that sticks out for me – “Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, *for I myself shall give you a wisdom* in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute.” A wonderful reminder of the power of the Holy Spirit – let us always seek that wisdom when speaking to our adversaries.

Our hymns this weekend tie into this “second coming” theme from many angles. The easiest tie-in, and a favorite, is the recessional hymn “Soon and Very Soon.” This really leads us into Advent (2 weeks!) which celebrates Christ’s coming in his birth, his presence in our lives today, and his second coming.

Working backwards, the song “I Am the Bread of Life” sung during the communion procession quotes the gospel of John, specifically the section known as “The Bread of Life Discourse.” As we reflect on the second coming, this song reminds us that the Eucharist nourishes our souls, rendering them fit for eternal life.

The processional hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” is such a rich text. “Don’t judge a hymn by its title.” The text isn’t all about love – well, everything traces back to God’s love – but there’s so much more happening here. In the context of today’s readings, this hymn really points to a joyful outlook of journeying to eternal life. There are also some undertones that point to the Eucharist – “fix in us your humble dwelling” and “let us all your life receive.” The first two verses help us **on earth** to serve Christ, to live his examples of love and compassion in every moment. For me, the magic really happens in verse 3. I just love Charles Wesley’s word choices. It’s a prayer full of joy and hope for eternal life. **“Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we sing before the almighty, lost in wonder, love, and praise.”** It’s a timely message for us, as we have witnessed too much division and hate in our country. It’s easy to be discouraged by this, but let this text be a reminder that our primary citizenship is in heaven. The image of being lost in wonder, love, and praise strips us of the burdens of this world, and reminds us that there are better days ahead on our journey.

Stephen Eros
Director of Liturgy & Music

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling,
 2. Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er,
 3. Fin - ish then your new cre - a - tion,



Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
 Let us all your life re - ceive;
 Pure and spot - less, gra - cious Lord.



Fix in us your hum - ble dwell - ing,
 Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,
 Let us see your great sal - va - tion



All your faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Nev - er - more your tem - ples leave.
 Per - fect - ly in you re - stored.



Je - sus, source of all com - pas - sion,
 You we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



Love un - bound - ed, love all pure;
 Serve you as your hosts a - bove,
 Till in heav'n we take our place,



Vis - it us with your sal - va - tion,
 Pray, and praise you with - out ceas - ing,
 Till we sing be - fore the Al - might - y,



Let your love in us en - dure.
 Glo - ry in your pre - cious love.
 Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

I Am the Bread of Life

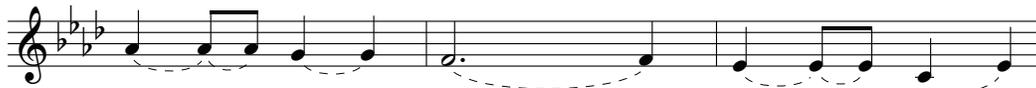
Verses



1. I am the Bread of life. You who
2. The bread that I will give is my
3. Un - less you eat of the
4. I am the Res - ur - rec - tion, _____
5. Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that _____



come to me shall not hun - ger; _____ and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, _____ and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man _____ and _____
 I _____ am the life. _____ If you be -
 you _____ are the Christ, _____ the _____

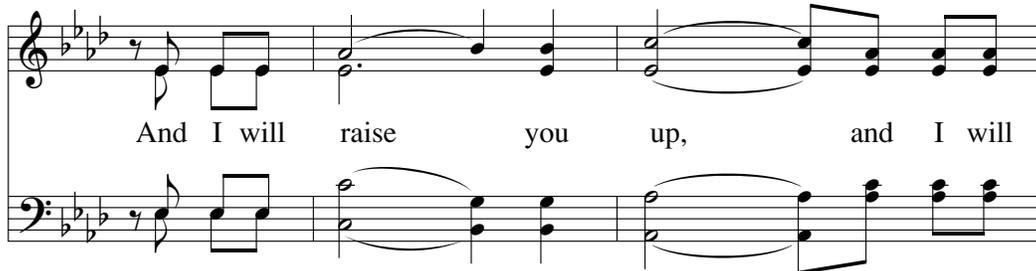


lieve in me shall not thirst. _____ No one can come to
 eat _____ of this bread, _____ you shall live for
 drink _____ of his blood, _____ and drink _____ of his
 lieve _____ in _____ me, _____ e - ven _____ though you
 Son _____ of _____ God, _____ Who _____ has _____



me un - less the _____ Fa - ther beck - ons.
 ev - er, _____ you shall live for ev - er.
 blood, _____ you shall not have life with - in you.
 die, _____ you shall live for ev - er.
 come in - to _____ the _____ world. _____

Refrain



And I will raise you up, and I will

raise you up, and I will raise you

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody in the treble clef starts with a half note chord (F2, A2), followed by a quarter note (B2), a quarter note (C3), and a quarter note (D3). The bass line starts with a half note chord (F2, A2), followed by a quarter note (B2), a quarter note (C3), and a quarter note (D3). The lyrics are: "raise you up, and I will raise you".

up on the last day.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody in the treble clef starts with a half note chord (F2, A2), followed by a quarter note (B2), a quarter note (C3), and a quarter note (D3). The bass line starts with a half note chord (F2, A2), followed by a quarter note (B2), a quarter note (C3), and a quarter note (D3). The lyrics are: "up on the last day.".

Text: John 6; Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b.1927
Tune: BREAD OF LIFE, Irregular with refrain; Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b.1927
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