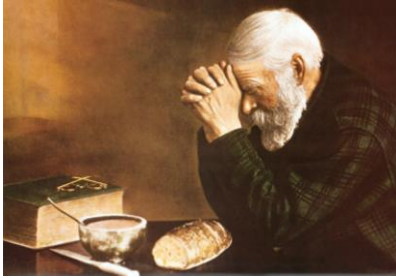


# Nourished for God's Mission

Sermon Notes for Mar 19 2017 at Brentwood



Ps 95 and John 4:5-42

Jesus said to them,  
My food is to do the will of him who sent me  
and to complete his work.”  
(John 4:34)

## Provocative Ponderings that Call Forth Our Potential in Christ

- It's a powerful and provocative saying – nourished by the will of God to complete that God's work – what is that work? – reconciling the creation into its intended relationship with the community of God that we know as the Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – Creator, Redeemer, and Reformer – and how are we fed? – by the Spirit's constant work in our midst, building up the Body of Christ that carries on the completion of God's reconciling work – but I want to highlight 3 things this morning that the Spirit is doing in our midst – giving us a **clarity of purpose**, creating a **community of practice** around that purpose, and blessing us with **celebrations of the providence** we have enjoyed
- **Clarity of purpose** – a review of the manifesto and its potential uses in our mission and ministries – witness to the hope that is within us to those who come within our circles of influence, and a continuing reminder to ourselves of the crucial redemptive story to which we are contributing
- **Community of practice** – we bless the world, as God intends us to do, by the disciplines that have nourished the church from its very beginnings – worship, learning, fellowship, and service – every more mindfully and faithfully – creating space and cultivating grace
- **Celebrations of providence** – been thinking more and more lately of prayer as celebration of God's providential gifts – especially to this congregation – for me, that has led to a more intentional and regular practice of prayer for the mission of this congregation – doing the will of him who sent us to complete his work – prayers of gratitude, support, and delight

## At this point in our ponderings, then ...

We've really been talking yet again about how we are living into our vision of *Nourishing Souls to Flourish in the Grace of Jesus Christ* – we are sent in mission to feed those within our circles of influence, no matter where they may be, with the purpose, practices, and providence that we experience here at Brentwood – with that quality of compassion, connection, and celebration

Notes for a sermon preached by Brian Fraser,  
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