



# Church at Home for Abridge

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020

Matthew 14:13-21

Further resources  
for worship and reflection

## The multiplication of the loaves and the fish

There is always the danger with such a familiar and well-loved story that we may miss any new insights that the Lord wants us to discover from these verses. [Lectio Divina](#) is an approach to Scripture that slows your reading down, with pauses for reflection between verses, as you imagine yourself into the story and contemplate on what you feel, hear or see; and then think about what you want to say or do in response. Try re-reading today's story in this way. [Here](#) is a short film version of this story



Last week the woman baking bread in the parable of the leaven used a ridiculous amount of flour, enough for over 60 loaves of bread. It is almost as if that Kingdom of God story was preparing us for today's miracle feast for the crowd. It certainly gave the disciples food for thought and Jesus clearly wanted them to go on reflecting on what it meant (see Matthew 16:5-12 and also John's extended commentary in John 6:25 ff).

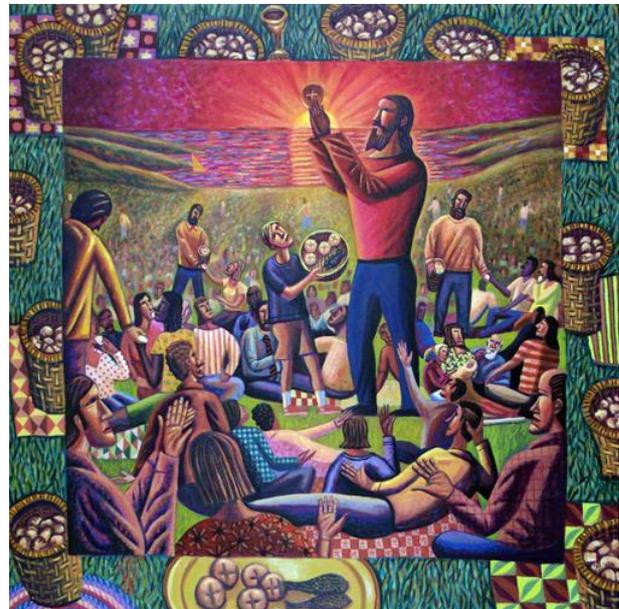
*Jesus took the bread and the fish, and he said a prayer over it. He said thank you to God....*

*....to God who had made everything out of nothing in the beginning of time; to God who had said, 'Let there be light' and there was light; to God who said, 'Let there be seed' and there were whole continents full of wheat fields; to God, who said, 'Let there be fish' and there were whole oceans full of sea creatures; to God, who can make a lot out of a little....*

*And then he handed the fish and bread to his friends to hand out. And the more they broke it up, the more pieces there seemed to be. It just kept coming: more and more fish; more and more bread. Everyone had enough to eat. Some even had second or third helpings!*

*'It's amazing' said the crowd. 'It's impossible' said his friends.*

*'Of course, it's impossible, said Jesus. **But nothing is impossible with God.** God can always make a lot out of a little. God can take nothing and makes it something; God takes small things and makes them more than enough for all.*



## There's always more with God

God who can turn....  
a bread roll into a bakery  
a fish finger into an aquarium  
a drop of water into an overflowing fountain  
a blank sheet into a best-selling novel  
a dead end into an open road  
an empty existence into a purposeful life  
a nothing into a something