

A sower
went out to sow

MATTHEW 13:3



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, July 15, 2023 ~ 5:00 pm

Sunday, July 16, 2023 ~ 9:00 am

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"What Is This Place"

ELW # 524

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Continues on next page



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 65:1-13

¹You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

²**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

³Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your
temple.**

⁵Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our
salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

⁷You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of
God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves
with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

A reading from Romans.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who

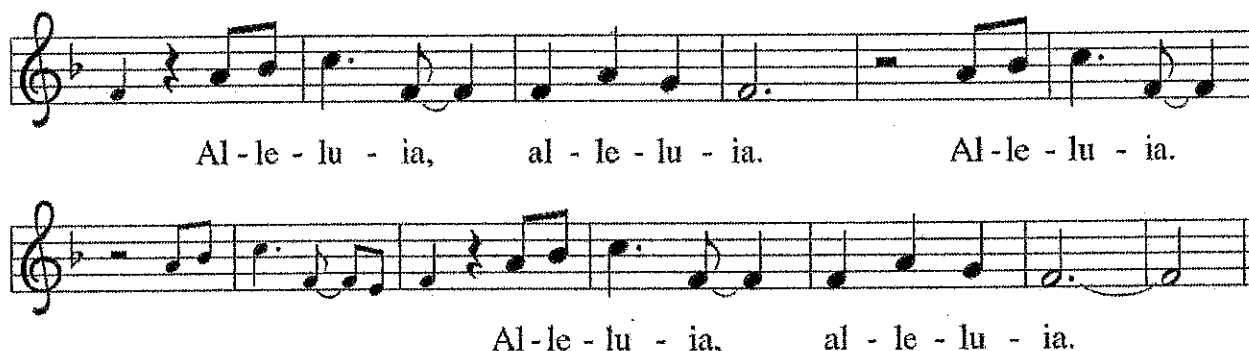
live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is

sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"As Rain From the Clouds"

ELW # 508

HOLY BAPTISM (5:00 pm)

See Insert

Brynley Sue Gray
Walker Robert Madden

CREED (9:00 am)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948
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OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

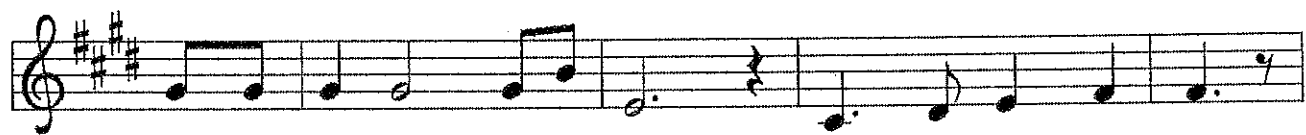
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -



est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

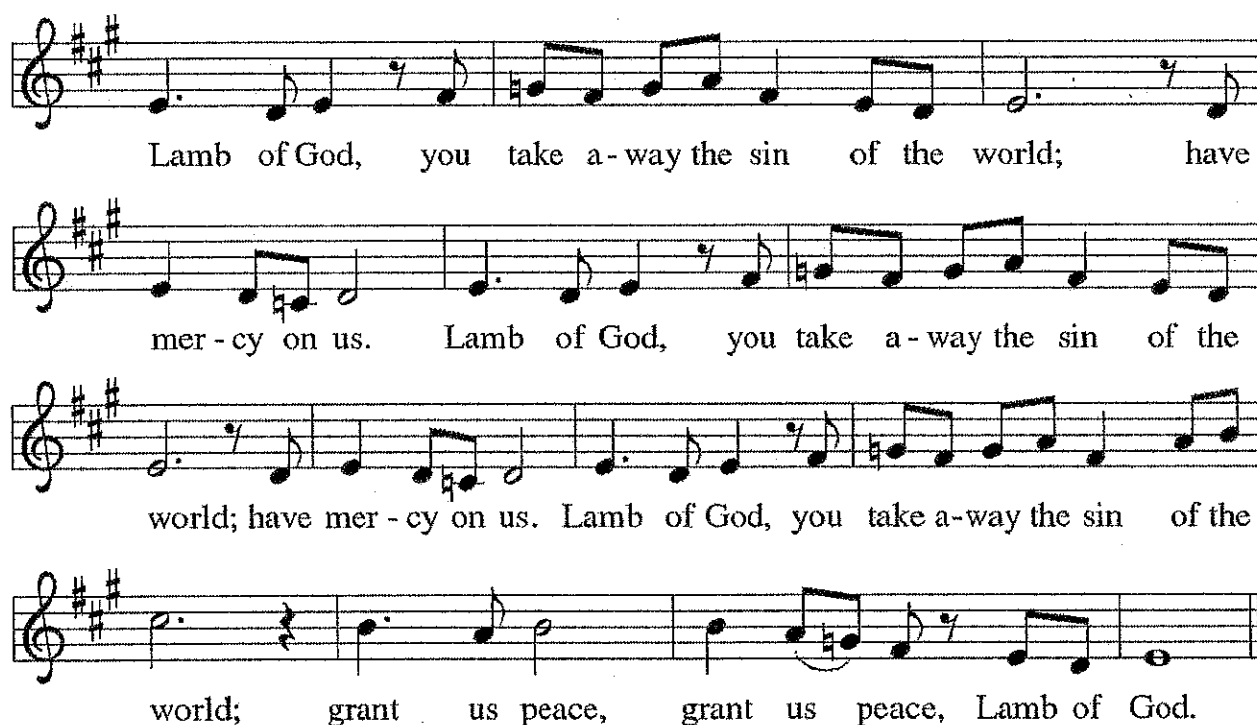
LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Indoors, the ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Outdoors, you may come to receive communion whenever you are ready. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward to receive a blessing. There are baskets at the end of the front pews when indoors or near the communion assistant when outdoors where you can deposit your cups as your return to your seat. Those who are worshiping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

COMMUNION SONG



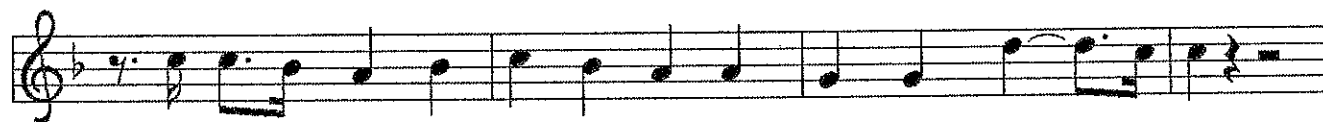
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"*

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom-is-es, O God, and lead us forth in



joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

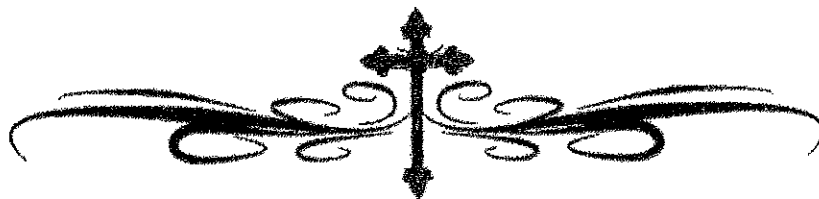
SENDING SONG

"Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

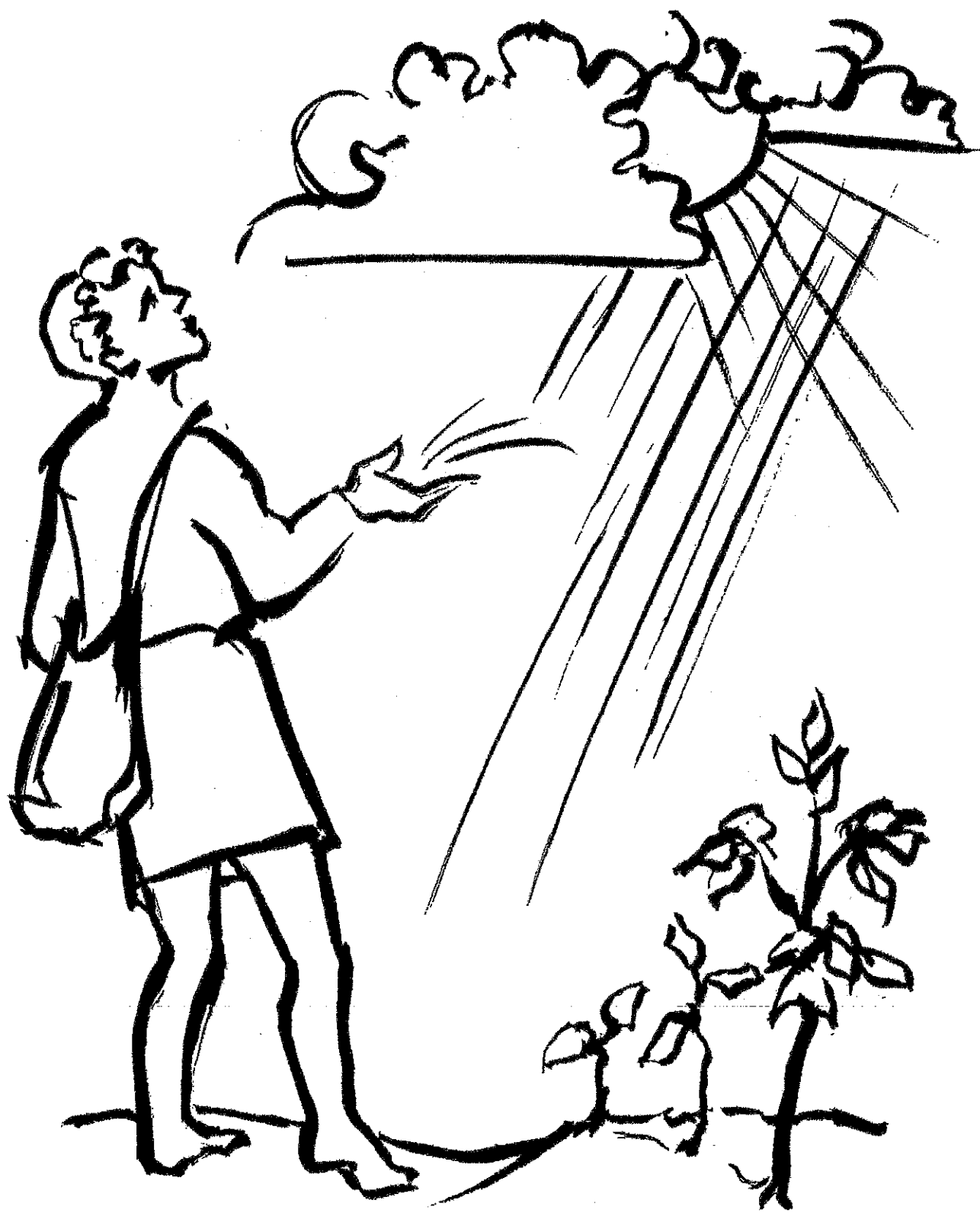


THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service
Ushers	Denny & Joan Hennigan
Reader	Joan Hennigan
Communion Assistants	Carol Kuehl
Counters	Carol Kuehl & Joan Hennigan

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Doug, Lisa, Katie, Sammie, & Jennie Garner
Reader	Mike Garner
Communion Assistants	Chelsey Dingbaum
Counters	Kenny & Sue Oetzmman

Choir Director	Susan Becker
Organist	Teri Wittkowski & Susan Becker
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker



No Seeds Wasted

Throughout history, people have looked at the growth of plants from seed to seed and seen that as an illustration of God's work in the world. Everything else comes in limited supply, but it's fairly easy to observe that from just one seed, you can get dozens of seeds—or even more. Who but God could make so much out of so little? Even if we understand the mechanisms of growing plants and know that those extra seeds aren't really coming from nowhere, we still don't have total control of the process.

Jesus compares the different ways seeds might develop to the various ways people might respond to hearing the good news. Just as many different factors can affect seeds, many factors affect people.

It's easy to assume that the ideal scenario is the one that produces the biggest harvest. But God also cares for the birds that eat the seeds. God can use the short-lived plants in rocky soil to enrich the earth, slowly making it more suitable for growth. Is it possible that none of the seeds was really wasted?

What if the same thing is true whenever people hear the good news? What if an obvious harvest of large numbers isn't always the best sign that God is working? What if we assumed that, no matter what results we see, God is always working in the world? How would that change the way we gather, the way we share good news, the way we care about one another?

What if the seeds of God's word cannot be wasted? God's word cannot be limited, or used up, or shut out, or shut in. Even if we somehow manage to throw away all of God's word in the world, God is always sending more. God is always sending Jesus!

Cover: Figure on rice terrace (batik). Photo copyright © Sergey Kozianko/Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

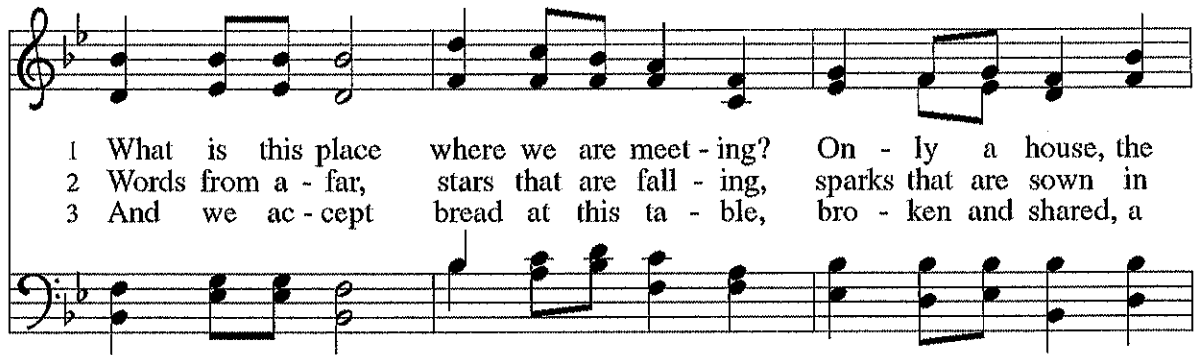
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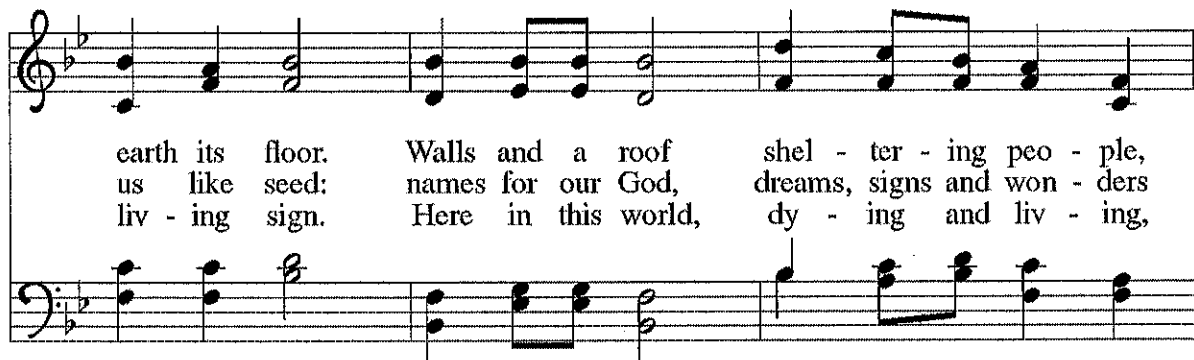
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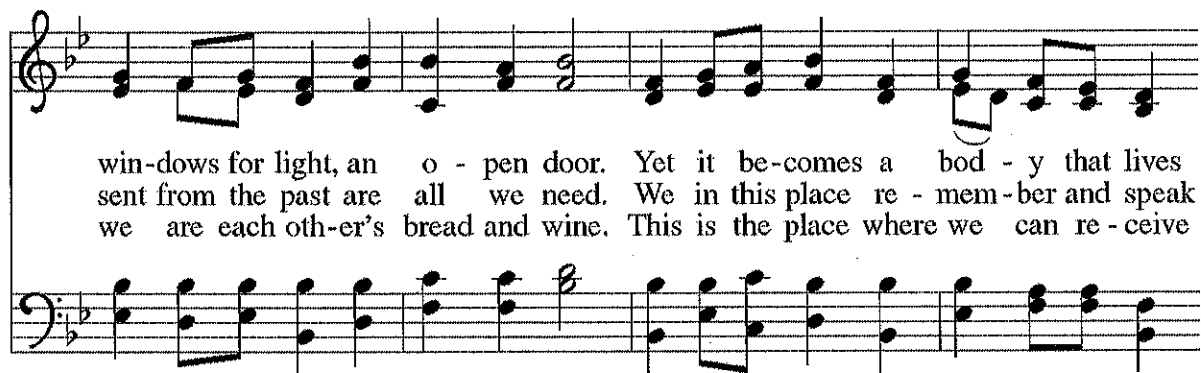
What Is This Place



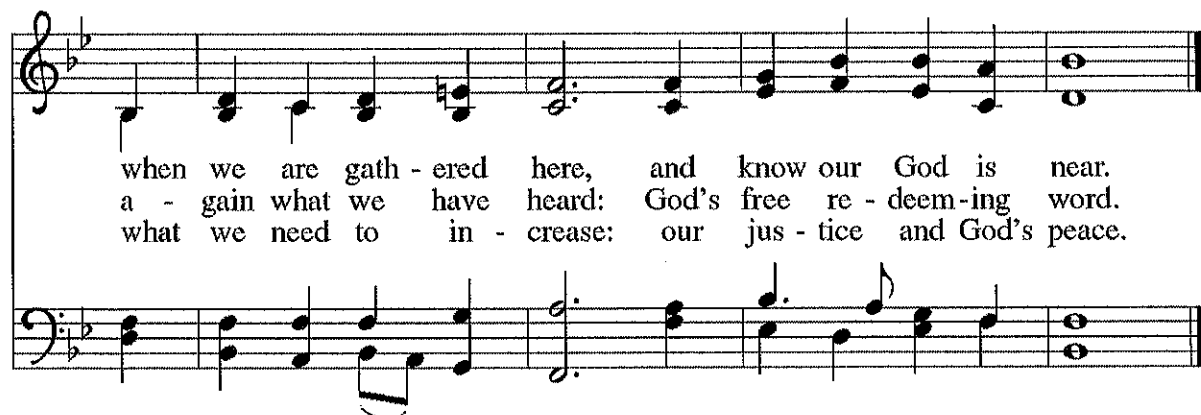
1 What is this place where we are meet - ing? On - ly a house, the
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in
 3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak
 we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.
 what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

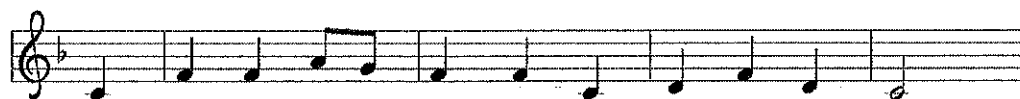
Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626; arr. Adrian Engels, b. 1906

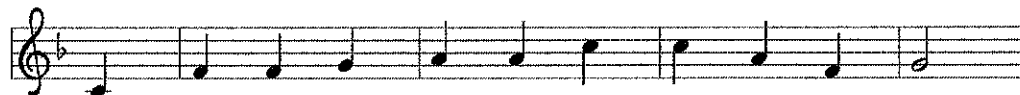
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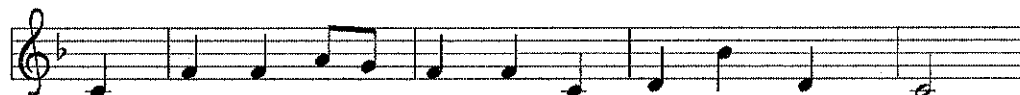
As Rain from the Clouds



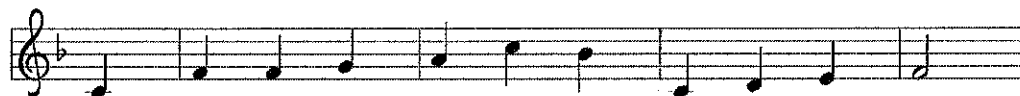
1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,
 2 As grain that is scat - tered your word has been sown,
 3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,



as snow from the heav - ens re - fresh - ing the land.
 on rocks and on road - ways, in good earth and sand.
 a - wak - ing and warm - ing and heal - ing our land.



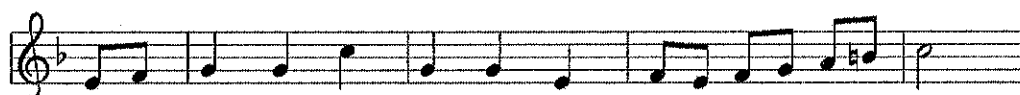
Then soft - en our soil that the good seed may grow
 Make fer - tile our soil that the good seed may grow
 Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow



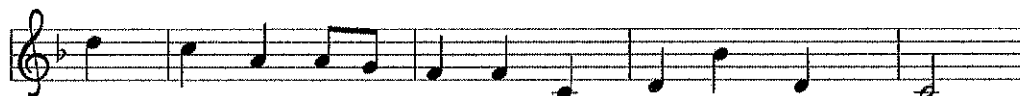
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
 and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
 and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.



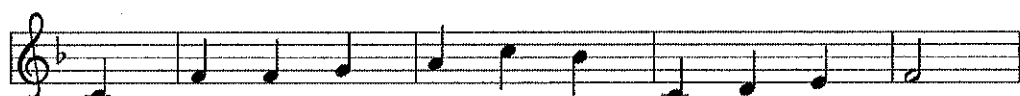
We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;
 We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;
 We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;



we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
 we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
 we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.



We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,



for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: AFTON WATER, Jonathan E. Spilman, 1812-1896

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Build Us Up, Lord

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our

us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our

ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.

Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us

guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us

world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain

Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in

faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your

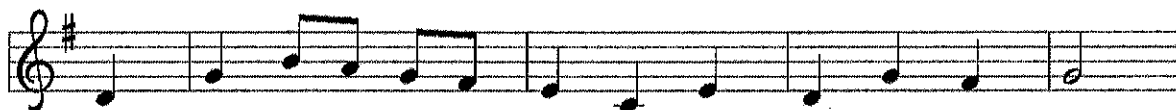
word to spread the news of your Son!

Text: Mark Glaeser, b. 1956, and Donna Hanna, b. 1952
Music: BUILD US UP, Mark Glaeser and Donna Hanna
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Sent Forth by God's Blessing



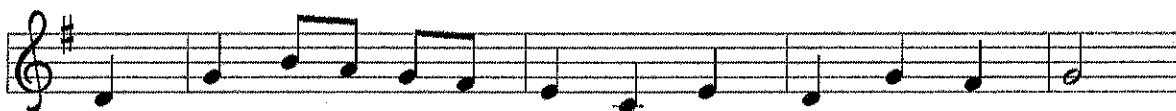
1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



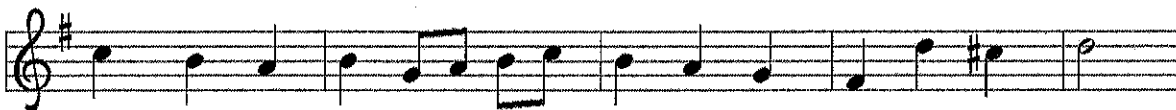
The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



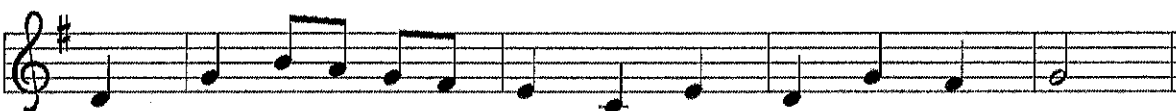
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest
Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am
Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 15 & 16, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheraneldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



If you are interested in providing altar flowers, there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. You may also sign up using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheraneldridge.com



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

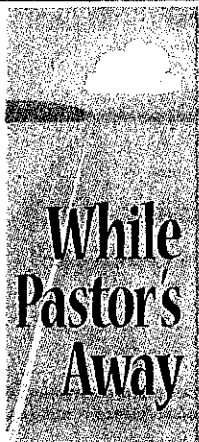
Ron McFate	Steve Mixdorf	Melissa Alden	Sharon Baker
Sally Puls	Duane Miller	Sue Vogel	Becky Rehn
Jensen Spencer	Henry Storjohann	Andrew Arp	Glen
Ann Kuehl	Dan Anderson	Kim Pierce	Kelly
Madison Russo	Ed Stoltz	Jeanette Myers	Vaughn
Janet Bowman	Jerry Schvien	Bill Lind	Mary Lou
Kathy Stoltz	Judy Knoer	Ed Precht	



During the Sunday, July 15th worship service, we welcome to our Faith family through the waters of holy baptism, Brynley Sue Gray, daughter of Bryce and Kylie Gray. Brynley's sponsors are Koby Hillmann and Katie Madden.

During the Sunday, July 15th worship service, we welcome to our Faith family through the waters of holy baptism, Walker Robert Madden, son of Jake & Katie Madden. Walker's sponsors are Alyssa Roman and Alexis Asby.

The roses on the altar are given in celebration of Brynley's and Walker's baptisms in loving memory of Mary House, Maddie Mess, and Jackie Snyder.



Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather will be teaching our Confirmation students and leading Congregation time at Lutheran Lakeside Camp with our children, youth, and adults July 16-21. Pastor Joel Nau will provide pastoral coverage during this time.

Pastor Carrie will be taking the youth on mission trip July 22-29. Pastor Heather will be available for pastoral care during this time.

Please contact the office at 285-4501 for pastoral care during these times, and we will contact the appropriate pastor.



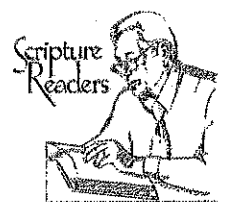
WORSHIP!

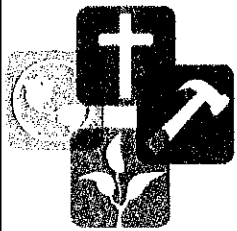


USHERS

As summer approaches please signup to assist in worship any way that you are able. ***Please consider volunteering and sign up on the bulletin board*** to help our Faith Family heads to complete the worship schedule. Thanks so much.

Nina Looney, Worship & Music Team Leader



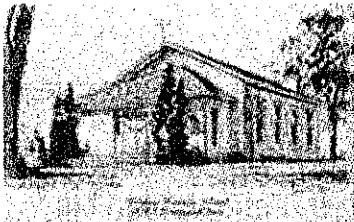


Service Learning Trip

Please hold in your prayers the 20 youth and five adults who will be heading to Albuquerque, New Mexico, on a Service Learning Trip July 22-29: August Bauer, Dylan Bergmann, Reese Crain, Griffin Frank, Mackenzie Gabrielson, Jennie Garner, Sammie Garner, Addison Harms, Carter Harms, Makenzie

Housenga, Grady Kirst, Gehrig Kirst, Abby La Plante, Madelyn La Plante, Collin Lewis, Jacob Link, Kaycee Newman, Katelyn Peck, Everett Schroeder, Ryan Stickler, Mike Garner, Brea Harms, Sue Kirst, Scott La Plante, and Pastor Carrie La Plante. Please pray for safe travels, for opportunities to learn from and with those whom we serve, for growth in faith and relationship with God and one another, and for a better understanding of and appreciation for the world in which we live.

Thank you for all of the support that you have provided to make this trip a reality, and we look forward to sharing our experiences with you on the weekend of August 19 and 20.



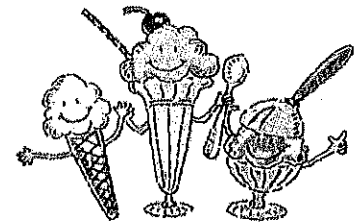
Scott County Historical Society



Ice Cream Social

OLD FASHIONED ICE CREAM SOCIAL

TUESDAY, JULY 18th
4:00 - 7:30 P.M.



Ice Cream Social

HISTORIC SUMMIT CHURCH
UTICA RIDGE ROAD & BLACKHAWK TRAIL
21980 210th Ave.
historicsummitchurch@gmail.com

Join us for Smilee's Ice Cream w/ toppings & Homemade Desserts
With Pork Chops, Sloppy Joe & Hot Dog Meals
Includes Grilled Sweet Corn, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw OR Macaroni Salad, Chips

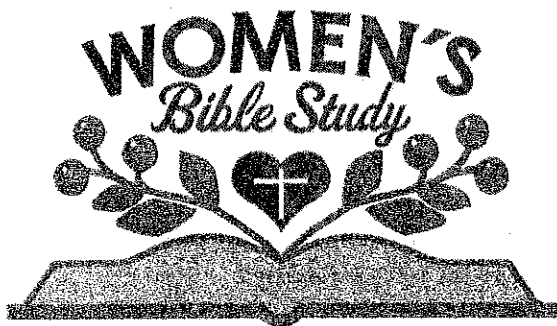


5pm: 38, 9am: 50, Online: 26, Total: 114

THIS WEEK'S GLANCE



Saturday, July 15	5:00 pm	Worship
Sunday, July 16	Morning 9:00 am 10:00 am	<i>Lutheran Lakeside Campers Depart</i> Worship Fellowship Hour
Monday, July 17	Office Closed	
Tuesday, July 18	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Feed Our Children Food Pantry
Wednesday, July 19		
Thursday, July 20	10:00 am 6:30 pm	Feed Our Children Church Council Mtg.
Friday, July 21	9:30 am Evening	Food Pantry <i>Lutheran Lakeside Campers Return</i>
Saturday, July 22	Morning 9:00 am 5:00 pm	<i>Youth Mission Trip Departs</i> Private Event in Fellowship Hall Worship
Sunday, July 23	9:00 am 10:00 am	Outdoor Worship Fellowship Hour



Join the Women of Faith for a Summer Bible Study on **Saturday, August 5, from 9 am to 2 pm**. The three session Bible Study is from the Gather magazine titled "Salvation Now." We will look at "Promised Salvation Now - Jesus Brings Wellness," "Tangible Salvation Now - Christians Bringing Wellness," and "Needed Salvation Now - A World

Wanting Wellness." Morning refreshments will be served at 9am. Lunch will be a salad buffet, dessert, iced tea and coffee. For planning purposes, a sign-up is on the bulletin board.