

Sunday Worship Service – July 12, 2026

Worship words from *Sundays and Seasons* marked with *

Bread of Life - Setting 5 – With One Voice

Welcome and Announcements

A Moment of Reflection

Confession and Forgiveness *

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn "*Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God*" #783 WOV

1. **Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.**
2. **Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.**
3. **We do not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.**

Greeting (WOV page 28)

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

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christe eleison: **Christ, have mercy.**

Kyrie eleison: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Christe eleison: **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy: **Lord, have mercy.**

Hymn of Praise “Glory to God” (WOV page 29) I – Pulpit side, II – Lectern side

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**I Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**II Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**I+II For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,
and peace to God’s people on earth.**

Prayer of the Day *

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands. A reading from the Book of Isaiah, the 55th chapter:

Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and don't return there without watering the earth, making it conceive and yield plants and providing seed to the sower and food to the eater, so is my word that comes from my mouth; it does not return to me empty. Instead, it does what I want, and accomplishes what I intend.

Yes, you will go out with celebration, and you will be brought back in peace. Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you; all the trees of the field will clap their hands. In place of the thorn the cypress will grow; in place of the nettle the myrtle will grow. This will attest to the LORD's stature, an enduring reminder that won't be removed.

Here ends the reading.

Inspire our understanding, Spirit of God.

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:1-11

Paul has written of the inner conflict which arises within the believer. While one wills to be godly, somehow one finds oneself not living up to these standards. Wretched as such a situation is, Christians are assured of rescue from it. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. A reading from the Letter to the Romans, the 8th chapter:

So now there isn't any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. God has done what was impossible for the Law, since it was weak because of selfishness. God condemned sin in the body by sending his own Son to deal with sin in the same body as humans, who are controlled by sin. He did this so that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us. Now the way we live is based on the Spirit, not based on selfishness. People

whose lives are based on selfishness think about selfish things, but people whose lives are based on the Spirit think about things that are related to the Spirit. The attitude that comes from selfishness leads to death, but the attitude that comes from the Spirit leads to life and peace. So the attitude that comes from selfishness is hostile to God. It doesn't submit to God's Law, because it can't. People who are self-centered aren't able to please God.

But you aren't self-centered. Instead you are in the Spirit, if in fact God's Spirit lives in you. If anyone doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, they don't belong to him. If Christ is in you, the Spirit is your life because of God's righteousness, but the body is dead because of sin. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your human bodies also, through his Spirit that lives in you.

Here ends the reading.

Inspire our understanding, Spirit of God.

Gospel Acclamation *"Word of Life, Jesus Christ"* (WOV page 31)

Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia.

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

That day Jesus went out of the house and sat down beside the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he climbed into a boat and sat down. The whole crowd was standing on the shore.

He said many things to them in parables: "A farmer went out to scatter seed. As he was scattering seed, some fell on the path, and birds came and ate it. Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow. They sprouted immediately because the soil wasn't deep. But when the sun came up, it scorched the plants, and they dried up because they had no roots. Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorny plants grew and choked them. Other seed fell on good soil and bore fruit, in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one. Everyone who has ears should pay attention."

“Consider then the parable of the farmer. Whenever people hear the word about the kingdom and don’t understand it, the evil one comes and carries off what was planted in their hearts. This is the seed that was sown on the path. As for the seed that was spread on rocky ground, this refers to people who hear the word and immediately receive it joyfully. Because they have no roots, they last for only a little while. When they experience distress or abuse because of the word, they immediately fall away. As for the seed that was spread among thorny plants, this refers to those who hear the word, but the worries of this life and the false appeal of wealth choke the word, and it bears no fruit. As for what was planted on good soil, this refers to those who hear and understand, and bear fruit and produce—in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one.”

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Carlton Larsen

Hymn of the Day “*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*” #713 WOV

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow

and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away.

When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

(repeat song)

Apostles’ Creed

We confess our faith together using the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

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 *

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. Each petition will end with "God of grace" and the congregational response "hear our prayer."

A brief silence.

God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward Isaiah's vision, when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world (*global concerns may be named*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns especially those who are homeless. Extend your healing and comforting touch to those in hospital and hospice care, Yvonne Redant, Carol Biberdorf, and those we name in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, we thank you for the hope of the resurrection to life everlasting. May that hope bring comfort to all who grieve the loss of loved ones. This week we remember the friends and family of Alma Deeks, Lena Brandt, June Galger, Michelle Graff, and Fred Erickson. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Offertory “Let the Vineyards” (WOV page 35)

(During the singing of the Offertory an offering plate is placed on the altar)

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering / Offering Prayer *

Let us pray:

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving¹ (WOV page 36)

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 to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for your Word is our heritage
and your ways are the joy of our hearts forever.

You created the earth and planted it freely,
bringing forth an abundant harvest of life.

Through Moses and the prophets, you gave us our Word
to be the birthright of all your children.

You sent your child, Jesus the Christ, among us
in the likeness of sinful flesh,
to teach us to walk according to your Spirit

¹ The Communion Preface is from *Laughingbird: Liturgical Resources with an Australian Voice* website:
<https://laughingbird.net/>

and to deal with the sin that constantly struggles
to come to birth and rule over us,
dividing us and robbing us of the joy of living.

When he was killed by those who are hostile to you,
you raised him from the dead
and sent your Spirit to us,
giving us life and sowing within us
an abundant harvest of peace and righteousness.

Therefore with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (WOV page 36)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer - Words of Institution (WOV page 37 – right hand column)

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus,
your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
 that by this Holy Communion
 we may know the unity
 we share with all your people
 in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him,
 in the unity of the Holy spirit,
 all glory and honor is yours,
 almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**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.**

Communion Instructions

Communion Distribution (begin with communing the online congregation)

Lamb of God (WOV page 39)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Hymn during Communion "One Bread, One Body" #710 **WOV**

Refrain: **One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
 one cup of blessing which we bless,
 and we, though many throughout the earth,
 we are one body in this one Lord.**

1. **Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man no more. (Refrain)**
2. **Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. (Refrain)**
3. **Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. (Refrain)**

Communion Blessing

May the precious body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in his grace now, and unto life everlasting.

Post-communion Canticle “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” (WOV page 40)

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev’ry one what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.
Send us with your promises, O God,
and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.**

Prayer after Communion *

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

Blessing *

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always. Amen.

Benediction Song “May the Grace of Christ Attend Us” (#963 Voices United)

**May the grace of Christ attend us, and the love of God surround us,
And the Holy Spirit keep us, now and ever. Amen.**

Commission

Go in peace, inspired by Christ to love and serve!
Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Joshua Hendricksen