

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026 + 9:30am



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
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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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
source of hope in every nation, rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of all mercy,

**we have sinned against you,
our neighbors, and your creation.
Within ourselves and our communities,
our desire to do what is good
is at war with the evil that dwells in us.
We lament the evil that holds us captive.
We repent of the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us
for lives of compassion and courage
through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**



All-merciful, Almighty God forgive you all your sins
through the grace of ✚ Jesus Christ, and by the Spirit's power
strengthen you in doing what is good. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. 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.

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Genesis 25:19-34

Although Jacob was younger than his twin, Esau, he eventually takes the birthright away from his brother. Jacob is portrayed in the Bible as deceptive, gripping his brother when he came out of the womb and driving a hard bargain by buying the birthright for a bowl of lentils.

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²²The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord.

²³And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other; the elder shall serve the younger." ²⁴When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. ²⁶Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." ³²Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" ³³Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So Esau swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the Assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

Psalms 119:105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light upon my path. (Ps. 119:105)

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp | to my feet and a light up- | on my path.

¹⁰⁶ **I have sworn and | am determined to keep your | righteous judgments.**

¹⁰⁷ I am | deeply troubled; preserve my life, O LORD, according | to your word.

¹⁰⁸ **Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute | of my lips, and teach | me your judgments.**

¹⁰⁹ My life is al- | ways in danger, yet I do not for- | get your teaching.

¹¹⁰ **The wicked have set a | trap for me,**

but I have not strayed from | your commandments.

¹¹¹ Your decrees are my inheri- | tance forever; truly, they are the joy | of my heart.

¹¹² **I have applied my heart to ful- | fill your statutes forever and | to the end.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

There is 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 God's own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, God 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 Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through this Spirit that dwells in you.

*At the conclusion of the reading, the Assembly responds: **Thanks be to God***

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

That 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 in the sowing, 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. ⁹If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the dominion of heaven 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 this age 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

"God of the Fertile Fields" ACS #1063



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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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.**

**Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

Prayers of Intercession

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need. Each petition ends with:

God of grace, receive our prayer.

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Erna Joswig, Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Pat Quale, Nancy Nelson, Afton Hunnewell, William Schultz Jr., Bill Schultz, Bonnie Ayers, John Falk, Carmen Falk, Mario Miranda, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs, and Eloise and Larry Laugen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering



*Your offering helps us carry on God's mission in our community! You may place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed, you may mail your offering to the church office, you can even text to give by texting the amount you wish to give to 262.592.5757, then follow the prompts. You may also scan the code to the right with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). You can also sign up for automatic giving on our website as well! **Thank you for your generosity!***

Offering Song

The Assembly may rise in body or spirit as the offering is brought forward.

Musical notation for the Offering Song, consisting of four staves of music in treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



Text: John W. Arthur, 1972-1980
Music: Vinny Hargens, b. 1950
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2001 Augsburg Fortress.

Offertory 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.

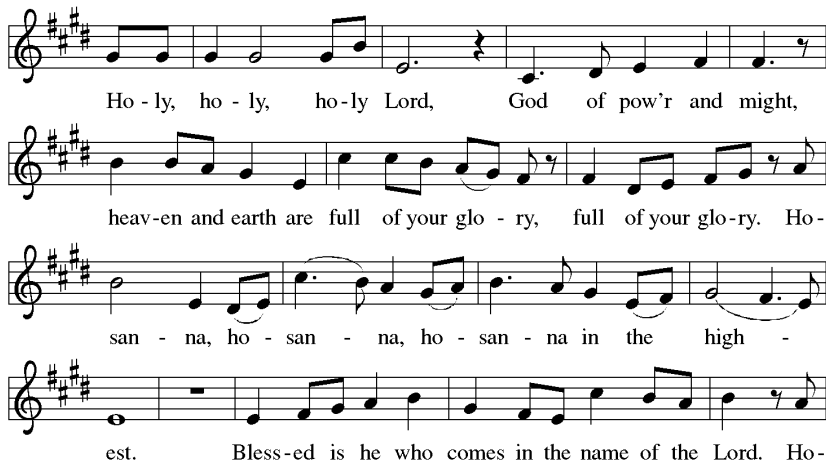
Great Thanksgiving

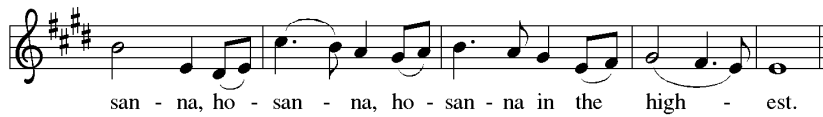
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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:*





The Presiding Minister continues giving thanks for God's salvation and blessing.

*The prayer concludes: **Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!



Distribution of Communion

If you are worshipping with us at home, you are invited to partake in Communion as well! All you need is bread of any kind and wine or juice of any kind. As you receive the bread: 'This is the Body of Christ given for you.' As you receive the wine or juice: 'This is the Blood of Christ shed for you.' If you are worshipping with more than one person, please serve one another as you able using the above words.



Communion Song

"As the Grains of Wheat" ELW #465

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. 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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

The Author of life, the Word of salvation, the Breath of new birth,

✝ one God, bless you and equip you for living and serving, today and every day. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"For the Fruit of All Creation" ELW #679



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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Announcements

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Serving Today

Altar Flowers:	Brenda & Jim Kasproovich <i>In Honor of Our Wedding Anniversary</i>
Assisting Minister:	Nancy Vandewinckel
Reader:	Kevin Rattle
Usher:	John Wosyk
Altar Guild:	Susan Krikau Sorensen & Lori Rennock
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James

We gather today on the ancestral lands of the Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, Ojibwe, Kickapoo, and Peoria peoples. We honor and acknowledge the traditional stewards of this land, recognizing their enduring connection to this region. As we come together in worship, let us commit ourselves to respecting their history and culture, and work toward healing and justice for Indigenous communities. May we be mindful of our role in creating a more equitable future for all.

This Week @ Redeemer

Monday-Thursday: Neighborhood Camp & S.A.L.T. continue!!!
Sunday: **Wild Church Worship – 10am, Pritchard Park, South Shelter**

Celebrations this Week

Birthday: Tyler Vance (7/12); Marilyn Rentz (7/13); McKenna Mercier (7/15)

Texts for Next Sunday, July 19th, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23