



*Loved by God,  
Sent to Serve.*

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
July 15 & 16, 2023**

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
WOV Setting Five: Bread of Life

**GATHERING**

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

**Prelude: *My Song Is Love Unknown***

**Tracey Craig McKibben**

**Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness**

**WOV p. 10**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**  
**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



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.

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

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## Greeting

WOV p. 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

WOV p. 28

Kyrie eleison:

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christe eleison:

**Christ, have mercy.**

Kyrie eleison:

**Lord, have mercy.**

## Hymn of Praise

WOV p. 29

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.

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.

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.

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

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: 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.*

<sup>10</sup>For 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, <sup>11</sup>so 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.

<sup>12</sup>For 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. <sup>13</sup>Instead 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 65: 9-13 (*sung responsively*)

#### Refrain

Your paths o - ver - flow with plen - ty, O God, your  
paths o - ver - flow with plen - ty.

#### Tone

Tone

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is <sup>1</sup> full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide <sup>1</sup> for the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**You drench the furrows and smooth <sup>1</sup> out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and <sup>1</sup> bless its increase.**

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year <sup>1</sup> with your goodness,  
and your paths over- <sup>1</sup> flow with plenty.

<sup>12</sup>May the fields of the wilderness be <sup>1</sup> rich for grazing,  
and the hills be <sup>1</sup> clothed with joy.

<sup>13</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak  
them- <sup>1</sup> selves with grain;  
let them shout for <sup>1</sup> joy and sing. **R**

## **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.*

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For 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, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For 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. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For 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, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But 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. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If 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**

**WOV p. 31**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

## **Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

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

<sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When 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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet 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. <sup>22</sup>As 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. <sup>23</sup>But 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**

**The Rev. Dr. Troy Troftgruben**



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: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1879-1958  
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**Apostles' Creed**

**WOV. p. 33**

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**

...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**  
...Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **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.*

**Offertory Music: *Fair Havens***

**Stan Pethel**

**Offering: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful***

**WOV p. 35**

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.



Scan code to give now.

**Offering Prayer in Unison**

**WOV p. 35**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**WOV p. 36**

## **Dialogue**

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.**

## **Preface**

**WOV p. 36**

## **Holy, Holy, Holy**

**WOV p. 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.

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

**WOV p. 37**

## **Lord's Prayer**

*Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:*

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**

# Lamb of God

WOV p. 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.

## Communion Distribution Hymn: *Build Us Up, Lord*

ELW 670

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!

## **Post-Communion Blessing**

**WOV p. 40**

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

## **Post-Communion Canticle**

**WOV p. 40**

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone 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.

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

**WOV p. 41**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

**WOV p. 41**

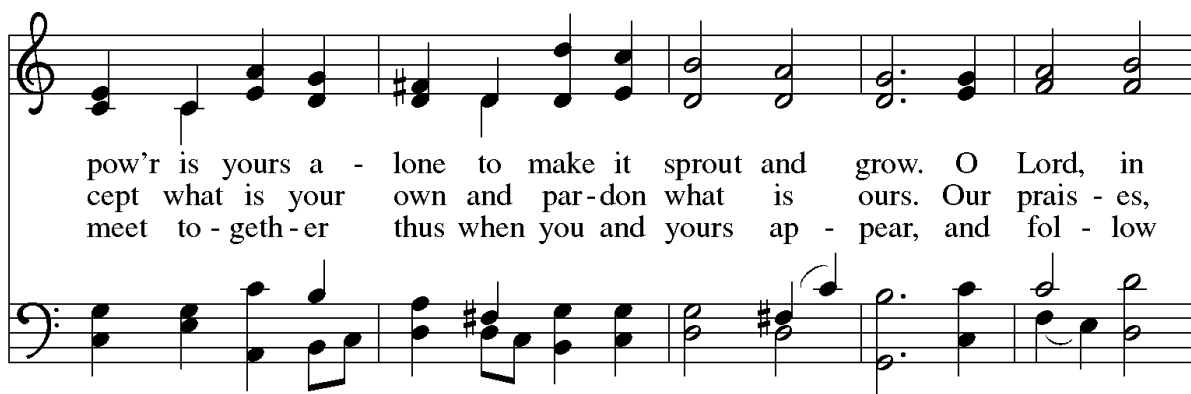
Almighty God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## Sending Song: *On What Has Now Been Sown*

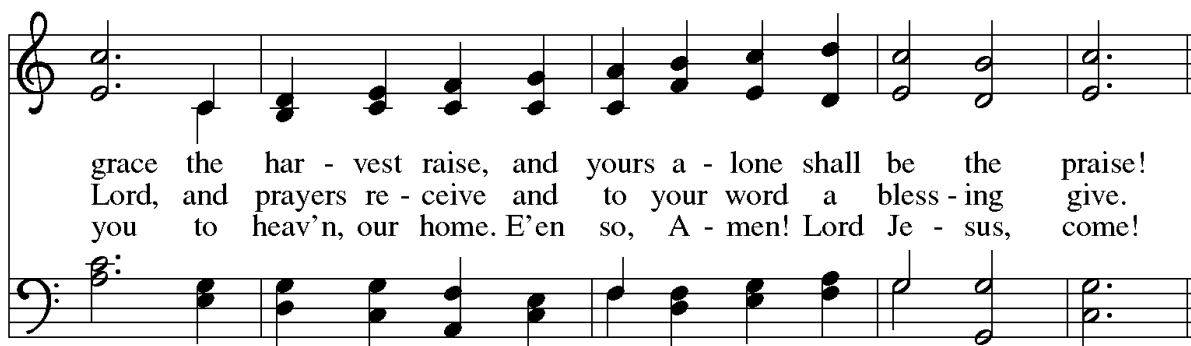
ELW 550



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the  
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -  
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in  
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,  
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!  
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.  
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt. Music John Darwall, 1731-1789 Public Domain

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## Postlude: *Go In Peace*

John Turner

## Announcements

### **Worship Online**

#### **Zoom:**

https://bit.ly/2PvSCQJ  
Meeting ID: 563 582 7371  
Passcode: Luther

#### **Phone in at:**

(312) 626-6799  
Meeting ID: 563 582 7371  
Passcode: 456037

**Altar Flowers** today are provided by Nancy & Clarence Davis in celebration of their son Dan's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **This Week at Lord of Life**

Saturday, July 15	4:00 PM	Worship in-person or online
Sunday, July 16	9:00 AM	Worship in-person or online
Saturday, July 22	8:00 AM	Mobile Food Pantry at LOL
	4:00 PM	Worship in-person or online

### **Iowa Bishops Ride Against Hunger**

The three Iowa ELCA Bishops have teamed up to ride the 50th RAGBRAI July 23-29 to raise \$50,000 to fight hunger and to highlight 50 anti-hunger ministries in Iowa along the way. For more information or to donate online please visit [www.neiasynod.org/2023/05/bishops-ride](http://www.neiasynod.org/2023/05/bishops-ride). Gifts to this fund will go 100 percent without any administrative fees, to fight hunger in Iowa, across the country and across the world.

### **July is Hunger Month**

Just a reminder that July is the month for our quarterly collections towards ELCA World Hunger relief. Thank you for your generosity in support of this mission.

### **Prayer List**

Dan & Denise Philippi  
Barry & Mary Pickart  
Alex & Cassie Renken and family  
Ken & Christine Resch  
Alec & Tricia Roschen and family  
Willeen Sass  
Tim Shade

## **Worship Servants:**

### **Saturday/Sunday, July 15/16**

	<b>Tech</b>	<b>Assisting Min.</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	Jon/Rita	Al Simms	Karin Anderson	Jim & Bernie Gilbertson
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Nate F.	Diane Frambach	Susan Hansen	Sam & Sue Deaver

### **Saturday/Sunday, July 22/23**

<b>4:00 PM</b>			Sandy Heer	Steve & Sandy Heer
<b>9:00 AM</b>			Barry Pickart	Jerry Merrick Lois Freiburger

## **Acknowledgments**

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**NOW Worship Leader**  
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**Choir Director**  
Susan Hansen

**Administrative Office Hours**  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

