

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Divine Service Setting Four
July 12, 2026



The Parable of the Sower

Confession and Absolution

691 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing

LSB 691



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

LSB 203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 113:1-2, 4, 7-8; antiphon: Ps, 113:3

P The LORD is merciful and gracious,

C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P As for man, his days are like grass;

C **he flourishes like a flower of the field;**

P for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

C **and its place knows it no more.**

P But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

C **and his righteousness to children's children,**

P to those who keep his covenant

C **and remember to do his commandments.**

P The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

C **and his kingdom rules over all.**

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P The LORD is merciful and gracious,

C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water 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 shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²"For you shall go out in joy
 and be led forth in peace;
 the mountains and the hills before you
 shall break forth into singing,
 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 make a name for the LORD,
 an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

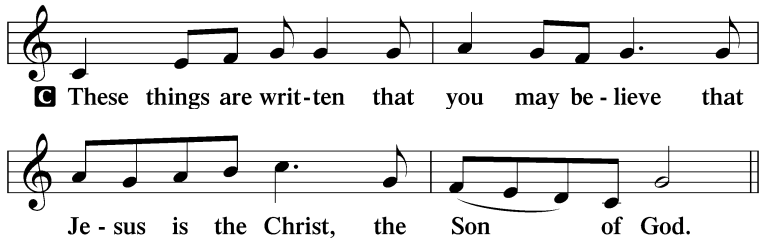
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 205

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be-lieve that
 Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, 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 produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸Hear 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 has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along 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 he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he 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 deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on

good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

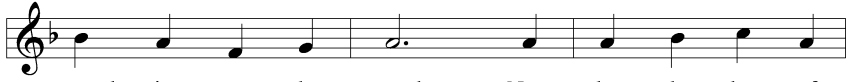
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

LSB 577



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Sermon: The Parable of the Sower

Offertory

LSB 192



☐ 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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

In this congregation, we recognize the true presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. Because those who receive unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith of this altar, those who hold a confession differing from that of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor before communing.

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

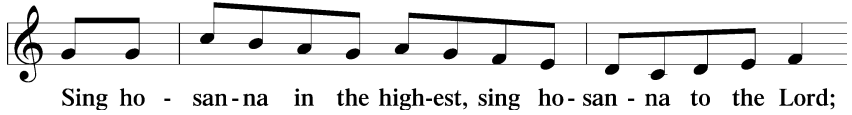
LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- G** **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

586 Preach You the Word

LSB 586



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home To men who
 2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task Your ser - vant
 3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love Scat - ters a -
 4 Though some be snatched and some be scorched And some be



like or like it not, The Word that shall en -
 bade us un - der - take: To preach Your Word and
 broad the good - ly seed, In - tent a - lone that
 choked and mat - ted flat, The sow - er sows; his



ture and stand When flow'rs and men shall be for - got.
 nev - er ask What pride - ful prof - it it may make.
 all may have The whole - some loaves that all men need.
 heart cries out, "Oh, what of that, and what of that?"

- 5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
 One-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
 And bears a harvest hundredfold:
 "Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!"
- 6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
 And never faint; the Harvest Lord
 Who gave the sower seed to sow
 Will watch and tend His planted Word.

641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

LSB 641




You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart With gift of fin-est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, The bread of life to eat.




1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They know and
 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to You Our praise and
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share The blood of
 4 The mys - t'ry of Your pres - ence, Lord, No mor - tal
 5 You give Your - self to us, O Lord; Then self - less



heed his voice; So when You call Your
 grat - i - tude That You should count us
 Christ out - poured? Do not one cup, one
 tongue can tell: Whom all the world can -
 let us be, To serve each oth - er


Refrain



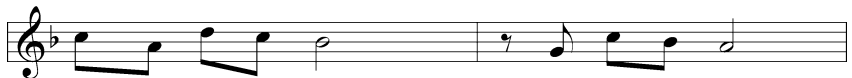
fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.
 wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
 loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?
 not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.
 in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

629 What Is This Bread


LSB 629




1 What is this bread? Christ's bod - y
 2 What is this wine? The blood of
 3 So who am I, That I should
 4 Yet is God here? Oh, yes! By
 5 Is this for me? I am for -



ris - en from the dead: This bread we break,
 Je - sus shed for mine; The cup of grace
 live and He should die Un - der the rod?
 Word and prom - ise clear, In mouth and soul
 giv - en and set free! I do be - lieve



This life we take, Was crushed to pay for our re -
 Brings His em - brace Of life and love un - til I
 My God, my God, Why have You not for - sak - en
 He makes us whole— Christ, tru - ly pres - ent in this
 That I re - ceive His ver - y bod - y and His



lease. O taste and see— the Lord is peace.
 sing! O taste and see— the Lord is King.
 me? O taste and see— the Lord is free.
 meal. O taste and see— the Lord is real.
 blood. O taste and see— the Lord is good.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let to Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is -
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

- A** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

921 On What Has Now Been Sown

LSB 921



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;
 2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;
 3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou
 Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -
 May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!
 es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.
 low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Acknowledgments

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