

OTHER SEEDS

fell on good soil
and produced grain...

Matthew 13:8, ESV





FAMILY OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Children by grace,
Extending Christ's embrace"

July 12th, 2026
7th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 am

Today we worship with the liturgy from
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) setting ten

Gather

Prelude
Welcome

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" arr. Melvin Rottermund

*Opening Hymn

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

ELW 533

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;

where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer,
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.

Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
 Music: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680

UNSER HERRSCHER
 87 87 77

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

§ 203

1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

* Hymn of Praise

§ 204a



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: You are great, O God,

C: and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Young Persons Message

Pastor Erin Koster

Word

First Reading

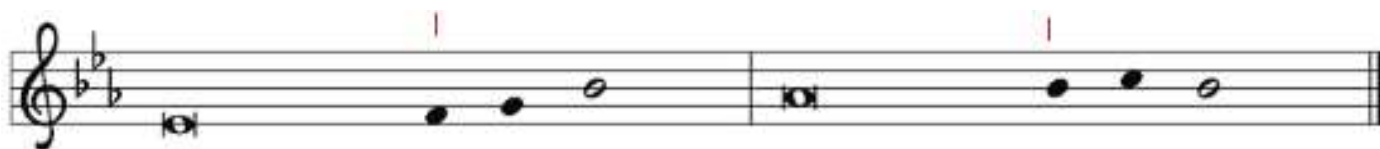
Isaiah 55:10-13

10 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, ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ 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.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Psalm

65:9-13

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

C: You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

P: ¹⁰You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;

C: With heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.

P: ¹¹You crown the year | with your goodness,

C: And your paths over- | flow with plenty.

P: ¹²May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,

C: And the hills be | clothed with joy.

P: ¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- | selves with grain;

C: Let them shout for | joy and sing.

Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

¹ There 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.

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



§ 205a

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior; o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*Gospel Announcement

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ 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. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other 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 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 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Erin Koster

*Hymn of the Day

"We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

ELW 681

1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,
but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.

Continued on the next page

who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,

the breez-es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh-ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank-ful hearts.

Refrain

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.

We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

*Apostles' Creed

C: 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.

Reception of New Member

Courage Kai sponsored by Sue Arens

P: People of God, do you promise to support and pray for this new member in his life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us welcome this brother in Christ to this community of faith.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

*Prayers of The People

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

*Peace

P: Peace be with you.

C: And also with you.

Holy Communion

Offering

"Make Us One, Father"

LuAnn Bahn

*Offertory Prayer

P: Jesus, Bread of Life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Words of Institution

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.

*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.

Communion



S 208

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Distribution

Communion Hymn

"Jesus, the Very Thought of You"

ELW 754



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;

Continued on the next page



Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

ST. AGNES
C M

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

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending

Ministry Opportunities

Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
 2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
 3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,

with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
 the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
 the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.

by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
 God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
 Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,

sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
 and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
 and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

arr. Frank Stoldt

Today's Worship Participants

Lector:

Soloist: LuAnn Bahn

Chancel flowers

Diane Tripp

in honor of Roger's first anniversary in his heavenly home

Family of God Ministry Staff

Paul Burow, Senior Pastor email: pburow@fogchurch.org

Erin Koster, Associate Pastor of Children/Youth email: perin@fogchurch.org

Judy Blomgren, Director of Music email: judyb305@gmail.com

Allyson McDonald, Admin Assistant email: admin@fogchurch.org

Claudia Peterson & Madison Benton, Nursery Staff

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The family of Connie Anderson as they grieve

The family of Magdalen Oien as they grieve

Roger and Carol Ellis

Don and Tricia Klobberdanz

Jeanette Lavigne

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR*

The family of Darlene Peterson as they grieve

The family of LeAnn Moe as they grieve

Connie Young

David Loos and his family as they grieve his father

*Those on the prayer list will be named for 4 weeks in the bulletin. If you wish to have someone named longer, please notify us and we will extend them on the prayer list for another four weeks. We appreciate updates on all those for whom we pray. Thank you for your prayers.

Announcements

Church Basement Ladies, A Second Helping Join Ruth Circle once again as we check in on the Church Basement. Sunday, August 16, 2:00pm performance of A Second Helping at the Plymouth Playhouse. The cost is \$44.10/ticket, note in the comment line CBL. Or contact Stephanie Statz for electronic payment, stephstatz24@gmail.com Sign up is in the Narthex. We have 25 tickets reserved. We can get more if needed, one name per line.

Bible Study will be held on Tuesdays at 10 am during June, July, and August. We will discuss the readings for the upcoming Sunday.

FOG's little library is heading into the busy summer season. Last year over 700 children's books made into the hands of young readers and adults. We are currently in need of gently used adult books (of course we will always accept gently used children's books) to keep our library fully stocked. There is a scholastic box on the table in the narthex for any and all book donations. Thank you!

NEW STUDY AND CLASSES: Join us starting July 19 for a weekly series on death, grief, and end of life planning. This class meets at 11AM on Sundays after worship. We will be embarking on a Bible study called "The Grief Lectionary: A Spiritual Approach to Accessing and Processing Your Grief" by Rev. Collette Broady Grund. Interspersed with the study will be three classes on end of life decision-making. Our first class is on August 2 with attorney Rebecca Bell. A bit about her:

Rebecca Bell from rb LEGAL pulls back the curtain on what legal documents you need (and why) and what happens when you need to use them. Led by an experienced estate planning attorney, this practical session will guide you through the critical things that many people overlook. Part education, part myth-busting, you hear about real-life stories. Whether you are new to estate planning, created your plan yesterday, or a decade ago, this presentation delivers actionable, real-world advice to ensure your legacy is fully protected and your loved ones are spared unnecessary headaches.

Ask Pr. Erin or Sue Arens if you have questions! Signup is in the narthex.

Nursery note: To help us keep the Nursery safe, clean, and ready for all of our little ones, the Nursery will only be open when Nursery staff is present during the week. On Sundays, the Nursery will open 15 minutes before each service begins and will close 15 minutes after the service ends. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us care for this special space! Claudia, Senior Nursery Staff

Celebration of life for Magdalen (Barth) Oien age 95 of Brooklyn Park, MN who passed away Friday June 26, 2026. She was born on her family farm located in Heart River township, ND on May 20, 1931.

Please join us for a Celebration of Life to be held on Sunday, August 2nd, 11:00am - 2:00pm where family and friends will gather to share stories and memories of Magdalen. She will be missed by so many.

Westwood Hills Nature Center

8300 West Franklyn Avenue

St. Louis Park, MN 55426

RIC Committee will be meeting on Tuesday July 14th at 6:30 pm.



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FAMILY OF GOD

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