

ST. PAUL’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Crystal Lake, Illinois
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026

* **Please stand** (in body or in spirit)

Greeting Kevin Kruse

Prelude All Creatures of Our God and King, arr. Murray Kristin Scheets

* **Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 65)

Leader: Let us praise our God, who hears our prayers!

All: Let us offer our thanks to the Lord who forgives our transgressions.

Leader: The God of our salvation delivers us through awesome deeds and provides for us with merciful love.

All: Our Lord is the source of hope and joy for all creation.

Leader: You care for the earth and enrich it greatly; you soften it with showers and bless its growth; you provide for us abundantly with your bounty.

All: Let us praise our God, who hears our prayers!

* **Gathering Song** I Sing the Almighty Power of God #31

Welcome Time

* **Prayer of Invocation** (unison)

Gracious and merciful God, you sow in us the seeds of our faith. Till the soil of our hearts and minds, so that what you plant might be nurtured into fullness of life. Help us grow as your people and bear fruit that is pleasing to you. Help us always reverence you as the source of all we have and enjoy. Amen.

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23 Page 1516

Message for Young Christians Kevin Kruse

Anthem I Sing the Almighty Power of God, arr. Scheets Kristin Scheets

Sermon Rev. Mason

Hymn Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult #345

A Time for Prayer (followed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Church Announcements

Call to Offering
We bring our gifts because God’s love has worked its way into the soil of our hearts. Let us yield our lives to God’s abundant harvest.

Offertory Be Though My Vision, arr. Tornquist Kristin Scheets

* **Musical Response** The Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* **Prayer of Dedication** (unison)
Giver of life, as the sower casts seeds abundantly and hopefully, so we long to share in your seeding in our world. Use these gifts to nurture your harvest. Send your cultivating Spirit to work among us as we grow in grace, and help us never allow our worries or desires to choke out what you wish to do among us. In the name of Christ we pray, amen.

* **Closing Song** For the Fruit of All Creation #723

* **Benediction**

Postlude Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God, by Evans and Yardley Kristin Scheets

Today’s Worship Leaders
Pastor: Rev. Eric F. Mason, Ph.D.
Organ/Piano: Kristin Scheets
Lay Reader and Message for Young Christians: Kevin Kruse
Greeters: Barb and Ken Thrun