

7th Sunday after Pentecost 7-12-26

Ask an usher for a large print hymnal or amplification unit.

Parents of young children: A Nursery (not staffed) is by the stairwell.

Welcome, one and all, to the Lord's House on the Lord's Day!

Today we sing the setting of the Liturgy with Celtic melodies.

Gathering in the Lord's Name – At the Font

OPENING HYMN #493 “Sing to the Lord of Harvest” LSB #893: in G

INVOCATION (*All stand and face the baptismal font*)

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed (*All speak together:*)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church - the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

CONFESSION – of God's Acts and Our Own – KYRIE (*spoken responsively*)

God of Grace, for your love and care for us **and for the world you made,**
We praise you, **O Father of All – God above us!**

Forgive us for our failure **to love and trust in you above all things,**
And to care for our world and all your children in it. **Lord, have mercy!**

God of Love, for coming to us as one of us, **to seek and to save the lost,**
We praise you, **O Christ our brother – God with us.**

We fail to hear and heed your Word, **to see and love ourselves as you do,**
to see others as you do and love them as ourselves. **Christ, have mercy!**

God of Life, for faith and forgiveness, **peace and a place in your family,**
We praise you, **O Spirit of the Living God – God within us.**

Forgive us for not cherishing your gifts **of life, new life, and eternal life.**

Renew us, and give us a fresh start, free of our past. **Lord, have mercy!**

ABSOLUTION (*All: “Amen.”*)



1. All glo - ry be to God a - bove and peace to all who
 2. O Liv - ing Christ, come from on high to live and teach and
 know His love; Who was and is and e - ver shall be, the Ru - ler of
 bleed and die; Who full-ness in the God - head shares, yet then and
 time and e - ter - ni - ty; Now from the cross there flows our
 still a b - ody bears. Lord of the Church, our life and
 peace; Christ chose for us the path he trod, That ev' - ry
 head, Re - demp - tion's price and source and theme, A - live, the
 sin and sor - row cease and all be rec - on - ciled to God.
 First - born from the dead, You reign, our All - In - All su - preme!

PRAYER (All: "Amen.") - THE PEACE - [9:15] Kids' Time (*SIT*)

Listening to the Lord's Word - At the Lectern

EPISTLE READING Romans 8:12-17 *Live by the Spirit, not the flesh.*

Brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. If you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. You did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

GRADUAL (*All:*) Great is the Lord and most worth-y of praise;
 His greatness no one can fath-om.
 I will meditate on your won-derful works,
 And I will proclaim your great deeds.

"As the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. Instead of the thorn bush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed."

ALLELUIA VERSE *All stand to welcome the words of our Lord.*



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23 *Parable of the Sower* **STAND**

Such large crowds gathered by the lake around Jesus that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop - a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. He who has ears, let him hear. ...

"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the one who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

...Reaching Up – to God in worship

...Reaching In – to one another in love

...Reaching Out – to our world in witness!



[8:00] HYMN OF THE DAY “As Rain from the Clouds”

SIT

[9:15] DISTRIBUTION HYMN (*Interlude after stanza 2*)

1 As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth,
2 As grain that is scat - tered your word has been sown
3 As rays of the sun shall your word light the world,

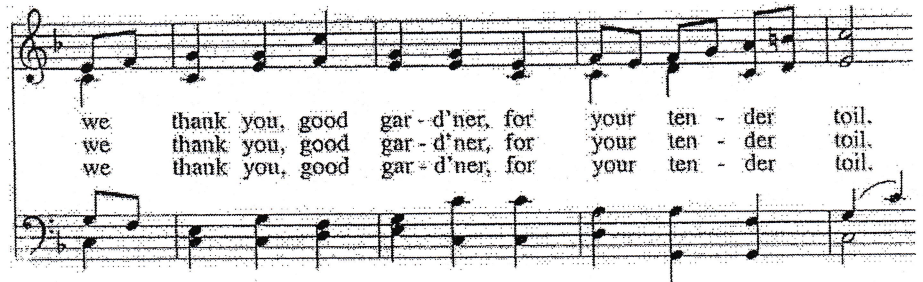
as snow from the heav - ens re - fresh - ing the land.
on rocks and on road - ways, in good earth and sand.
a - wak - ing and warm - ing and heal - ing our land.

Then soft - en our soil that the good seed may grow
Make fer - tile our soil that the good seed may grow
Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow

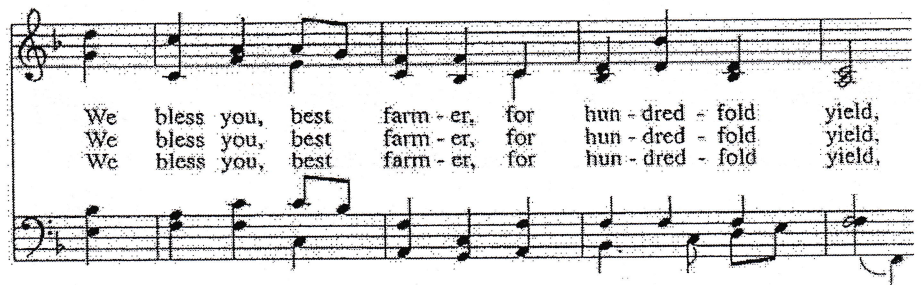
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.
and rip - en rich fruit to re - turn to your hand.



We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word;
 We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word;
 We praise you, our God, for the light of your word;



we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
 we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.
 we thank you, good gar - d'ner, for your ten - der toil.



We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,
 We bless you, best farm - er, for hun - dred - fold yield,



for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.
 for har - vest of grace in our once - bar - ren soil.

MESSAGE Rev. Dan Anderson, LCLC Director of Young Adult Ministry

*Living Christ is a loving, growing family, dedicated to strengthening one another through **the Word of God** for our mission of **making disciples for Christ!***

HYMN RESPONSE "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" **WOV 713 6**

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.

Chord symbols: EM⁷, B⁷, E, G[♯]m⁷, A, E, F[♯]m⁷, A/B, B⁷, E, A, E, F[♯]m⁷, A/B, B, A, E, F[♯]m⁷, A/B, B, C[♯]dim⁷, C[♯]m, A, A[♯]m, E/B, A/B, E, A/B, E, A/B, F[♯]m/E, E.

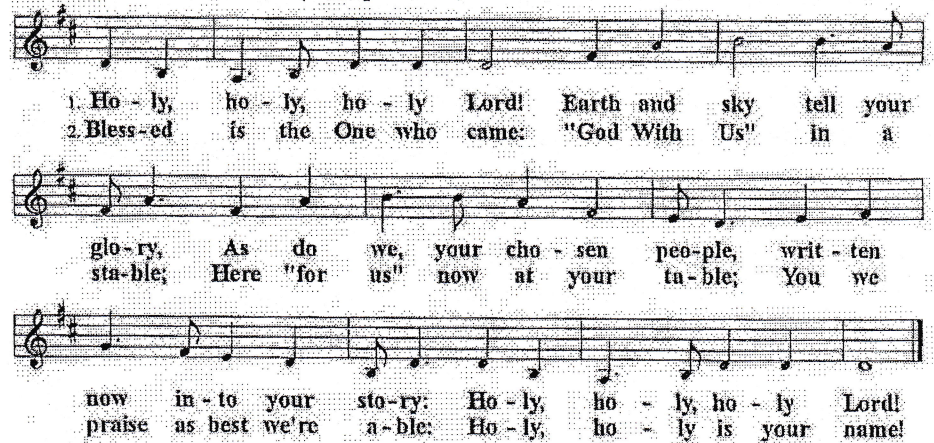
INTERCESSIONS (After each petition, all respond: "Hear our prayer.")

Celebrating the Lord's Supper – At the Altar

7

PREFACE P. The Lord be with you. C. And also with you. **STAND**
P. Lift up your hearts! C. We lift them to the Lord.
P. Give thanks to the Lord, C. For His love lasts forever!

PROPER PREFACE (LW, p. 145-6) - SANCTUS *(All sing:)*



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord! Earth and sky tell your
2. Bless - ed is the One who came: "God With Us" in a
glo - ry, As do we, your cho - sen peo - ple, writ - ten
sta - ble; Here "for us" now at your ta - ble; You we
now in - to your sto - ry: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
praise as best we're a - ble: Ho - ly, ho - ly is your name!

LORD'S PRAYER *(spoken by all)*

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - AGNUS DEI *(spoken responsively)*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, **grant us your peace.**

Holy Communion, for Lutherans, is a sacrament - an "act of God," in which He offers us forgiveness, life and salvation - won at the cross. As a "means of grace" it does not depend on you or your own worthiness, but on Christ and His words: "This is my Body...this is my blood - given and shed for you." Faith believes His words and receives His gifts. If you share this faith with us, and have been "born anew" into the family of God at the font, then join with us at the altar of the Lord - to "proclaim His death" - for you - and celebrate His life - in you!

Communion Directions: Approach by the center aisle; Circle the altar counter-clockwise -- to the first open space ahead of the pastor. Return by the side aisle.

[9:15] HYMN "As Rain from the Clouds" *(printed on pages 4-5)*

[9:15] Prayer Team members are available in the entry to pray personally (and confidentially) for you or a loved one during the Distribution.

DISMISSAL, CLOSING PRAYER, BLESSING (All: "Amen.")

CLOSING HYMN #217 "On What Has Now Been Sown"

Darwell's 148th

"Go in peace! Serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!"

+ + +

OFFERINGS may be given online at www.living-christ.org under "Resources" or put in an offering plate in the entryway. **Guests:** Your presence today is gift enough!

To all guests: May you sense the Living Christ's presence and purpose among us! Please sign our guest book in the entryway and come again! To know more about our church family, call the office (608-829-2136).

WHAT LIVING CHRIST OFFERS

Uplifting worship services in the best of the Lutheran tradition

- incorporating a variety of musical styles and instruments

A varied program of Christian education for all ages

- including small groups and full day preschool (infant - age 4)

A strong commitment to mission work at home and abroad,

- missionary families in Mongolia and the Dominican Republic;

- sister church in Russia; LAMP trip to Canada;

- International Friendship Center in Madison, WI (Judy Tang)

A significant outreach to our community and beyond

- low-income garden, food pantries, world relief drives, jail ministry

Opportunities to enjoy friendship and fellowship in a church family

A beautiful sanctuary and Family Life Center with a full gym

Check out our website: www.living-christ.org

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