

The Divine Service

The Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

July 16, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Though you may be familiar with Jesus' parable of the sower, you may be surprised to hear that you do not really know it yet! That's because on the one hand, the Word of God does not change. Yet on the other hand, we need to keep hearing it again and again, because our circumstances are constantly changing. The parable of the sower tells of this mystery. The seed is God's Word, God's work of planting repentance and faith in ears who hear. We may think of the various kinds of soil Jesus mentions to be various sorts of people. Actually, however, He is describing each individual in their changing circumstances. There are times when we are "good soil," that is, we understand God's Word and take comfort in it. There are other times, however, when we either cannot or will not hear it. Sometimes we become hard paths, rocky or distracted by worries or fears. For this reason, God never ceases planting, speaking, and growing faith in the heart, and we return repeatedly to continue hearing, reading, learning, and receiving God's Word because He never gives up on you.

Prelude

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

People: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: **have mercy on us. We confess to you that 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 trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

Pastor: With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in (✠) Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Processional Hymn

"Come, thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LSB 686, verses 1 & 3



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

Greeting

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

People: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Cantor: In peace, in peace...



In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,



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

Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Cantor: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the ... Refrain

Assistant:



Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

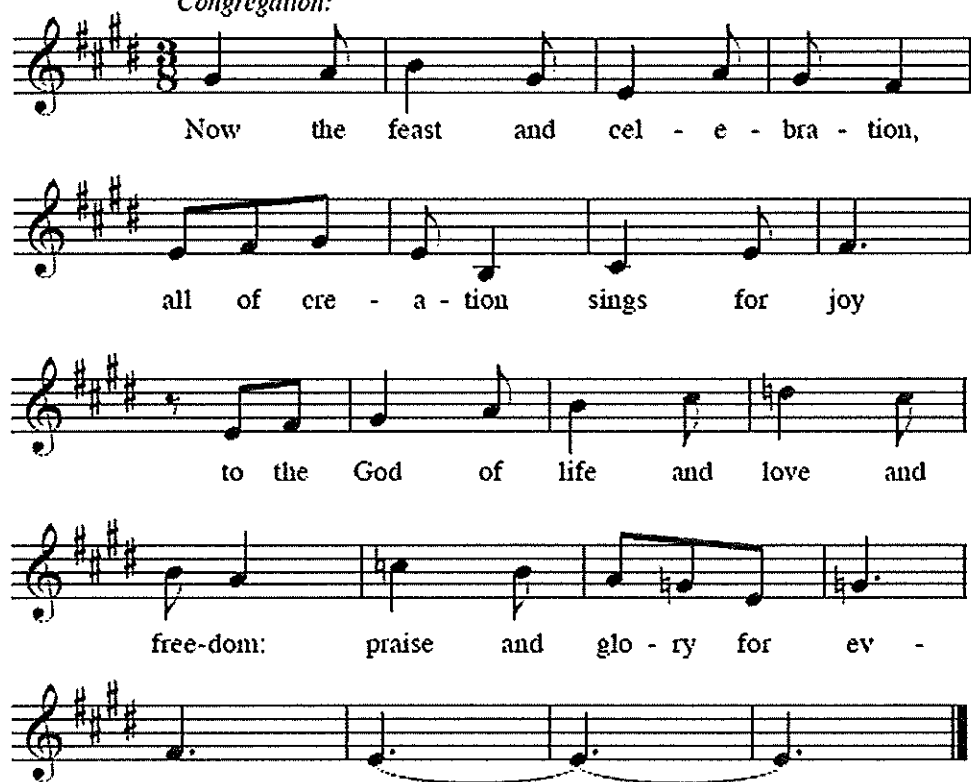


God. A - men.

Hymn of Praise: "Now the Feast"

Refrain

Congregation:



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
 slain, whose blood has freed and u -
 nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
 God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
 might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
 for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
 make us peo - ple of God; to make
 all things new. *to Refrain*

Salutation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, by the power of Your Word alone, You created every thing out of nothing, and You have caused us to be drawn to You in hope. Open our ears and our hearts to hear and believe Your Word this day anew that we may grow by Your grace in the faith and the love that are in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Today's Scripture Readings

The Old Testament

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰"For 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. ¹³ instead 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."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: 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.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Processional (Stand as you are able.)

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory be to thee, 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. . . . 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 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."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

Lord let my heart be good soil
Open to the seed of Your word
Lord let my heart be good soil
Where love can grow
And peace is understood
When my heart is hard
Break the stone away
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

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Sermon **"One for you...and one for you"**

Pastor Scott Henze

Apostles' Creed

People: **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.**

Prayer of the Church

*Petitions end, "Lord, in your mercy..." Congregation responds, "**Hear our prayer**"*

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Receive now these gifts you have first given us and fill us with good things at your table, that we might joyfully and generously share all you have given us, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen. From *Sundays and Seasons*, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress.

A word about Holy Communion: We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

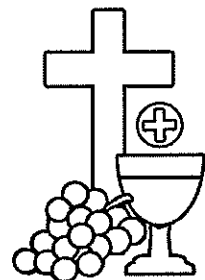
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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

The Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

(The congregation and minister may greet each other with the peace of the Lord).

Agnus Dei

(Congregation may be seated following the Agnus Dei)



1. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love:



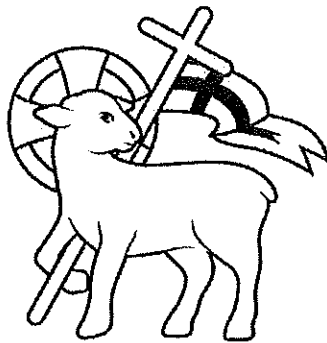
have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.



Hymns during Distribution:

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

LSB 641


Refrain




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

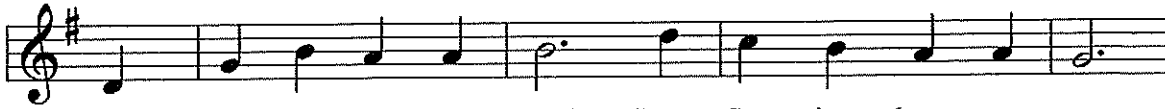


fam - 'ly, Lord, We fol - low and re - joice.
wor - thy, Lord, To share this heav'n - ly food.
loaf, de - clare Our one - ness in the Lord?
not con - tain Comes in our hearts to dwell.
in Your name In truth and char - i - ty.

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"Your Table I Approach"

LSB 628



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

Closing of the Table

Post-Communion Canticle:

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
weak and low - ly; Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of
life with us. 3 Praise to you, O
God of mer - cy. Thanks be to you for ev - er!
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly; Thanks be to you for
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

The musical score is written on ten staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are printed below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Post-Communion Prayer

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

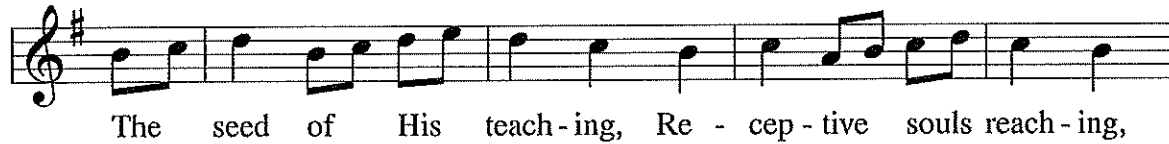
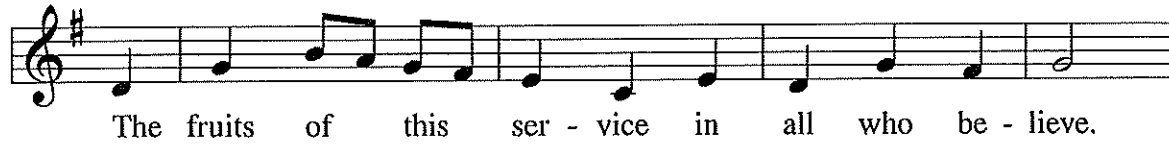
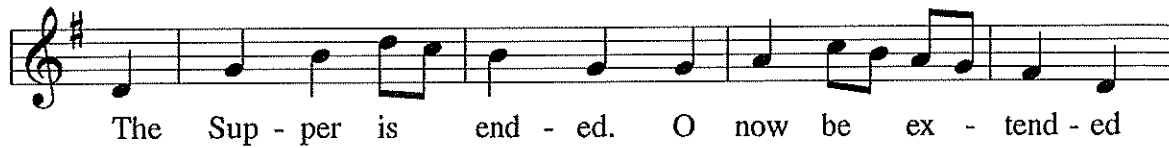
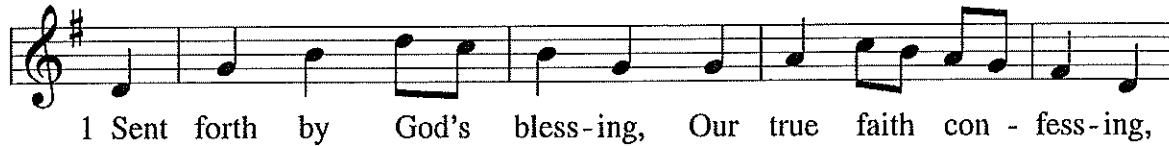
Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Hymn

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

LSB 643, verse 1



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Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!



Calling all Students!

Sunday, August 13

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Bring your backpack to church for a special blessing before the new school year begins!

Mark your calendars!

Sunday, August 6

College Sending Service 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM– All college students are invited for this special blessing before you head back to school.

Sunday, August 13

Blessing of the Backpacks! All students bring their backpacks this day for a special blessing.

Saturday, August 19

Church Workday; 9:00 AM to 12 Noon– Help is needed to spruce up the church grounds before school begins. Service hours for teens are provided.

Wednesday, August 23

St. Paul Child Enrichment Center Preschool Begins – Preschool classes for children ages 18 months through 4 years old. Space is filling fast!

Wednesday, August 30

Youth and Parent Kick-Off Meeting. All students 6th grade through 12th grade and their parents are invited to come hear about all the fun events and service opportunities planned for this coming year at 6:30 PM.

Saturday, October 14

First Communion Instruction, 9:00 AM –1:00 PM for youth 10 years old or in 5th grade. This one day class instructs students in the meaning of Holy Communion. Children will be invited to take their first communion on Sunday, October 15.

Ongoing Groups: Come get involved!

Spirit Night (Every Wednesday evening - 7:30-9:00 PM) All high school students grade 9-12 and their friends are invited for this fun gathering led by Jeremy Becker, Director of Youth and Family Ministry.

Middle School Teen Night - Fun outings and game nights held throughout the year.

Young Adult Group - Social gathering for those 18-30.

Confirmation Classes for all students in 6th, 7th and 8th Grades. Begins in September.

OWLs – Older Wiser Lutherans is a monthly social gathering for those 55+. All are welcome.

Music Ministry - Adult Choir, Bell Choir, Kids Choir, Reading music is not required, no tryouts ever!

Bible Studies: Men's Study Group, Weekly Adult Bible Study, Wednesday Prayer Group, Grief Share Support Group

GO TO www.stpaulweston.org for all the latest information.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Call the church office at 943-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth : 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving

St. Paul
LUTHERAN CHURCH
& PRE-SCHOOL