

Life in God's Word

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost | July 12, 2026 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes God's Word seems hard to understand. Sometimes it's difficult to hear. Sometimes we find our hearts are filled by His Words and can't wait to hear more. Sometimes we refuse to let His Word speak to us...Wherever we find ourselves, we can know for certain: God desires for us to hear and receive His truth and His promises. For God, it's an expression of love. For us, it's a matter of life and death...This makes the call to share His Word all the more important.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE SING "Unashamed"

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

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

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

WE SING "Evidence"

OPENING PRAYER

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰As the rain and the 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, ¹¹so 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. ¹²You 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. ¹³Instead 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."

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:12-17

¹²Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. ¹³For 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, ¹⁴because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷Now 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.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ²Such large crowds gathered around Him that He got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³Then He told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear."

¹⁸"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: ¹⁹When 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. ²⁰The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. ²²The 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. ²³But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

KIDS' TIME

DCE Liz Peters

MESSAGE

Pastor Chris Amen, Missionary

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

WE RECEIVE OUR LORD'S SUPPER

PREPARATION

LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

WE SING DURING THE DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD'S SUPPER

"Remedy"

"This Is Our God"

COMMUNION BLESSING

CLOSING BLESSING

WE SING

"Lead On Good Shepherd"

OUR OFFERINGS

All that we have and all that we are, belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good!
We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online memoriallutheran.net or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.