



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026 - Setting Three

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love.

As "the rain and the snow come down from heaven" and "water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout" (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, had established the name of the Lord as "an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off" (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and "indeed bears fruit" (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who "have received the Spirit of adoption as sons and daughters" (Rom. 8:15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we "also be glorified with him" (Rom. 8:17).

-Published by LCMS Worship. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Welcome
We are thankful you have joined us today!

Announcements

Hymn Word of God, Come Down on Earth | 545

Psalm [Psalm 103:15-19; antiphon vs.81]

☞ The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

☑ **As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;**

for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

**But the steadfast love of the LORD is from
everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,**

to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his
commandments.

**The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.**

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

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

Amen. [Matt hew 28:19b; 18:20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, [Hebrews 10:22] **who made heaven and earth.** [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord, **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** [Psalm 32:5]

Quiet time for self-examination and confession.

O almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Lord, Have Mercy

[Mark 10:47, Setting 3]

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Hymn of Praise—Gloria in Excelsius

[Luke 2:14; John 1:25]

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good-will toward
 men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.** [1 Timothy 4:22]

Let us pray...[silence for individual prayer] Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we many so hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah.

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, 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 shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. "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. 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."

[Isaiah 55:10-13]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from Romans.

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For 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!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and 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.

[Romans 8:12-17]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse. [John 6:68]

Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear."

“Hear then the parable of the sower: When 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet 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. As 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. As 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 hundred-fold, in another sixty, and in another thirty. [Matthew 13:1-9,

18-23]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Children's Message

The children are invited forward for a message by Pastor Fitch.

Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the Apostles' Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Hymn

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast | 577

Sermon

Please stand.

Offertory

Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing | 584

Please be seated.

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert.

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

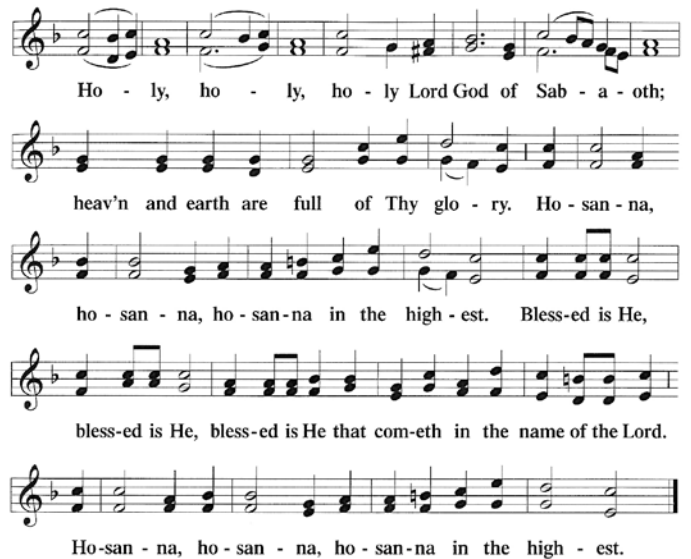
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]



O Lord remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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. [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat: this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.”

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this is the new testament in my + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” [Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

Lamb of God

[John 1:29]

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

Hymns

God's Own Child | **594**
For the Fruits of His Creation | **894**
Christ Be My Leader | **861**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de-part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre-pared be-fore the face of all people, a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post Communion Prayer

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, **and His mercy endureth forever.**

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Salutation

[2 Timothy 4:22]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**
Bless we the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

[Numbers 6:24-26]

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and give you † peace. **Amen, amen, amen.**

Hymn

On What Has Now Been Sown | **921**

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Acknowledgments- Artwork- "The Sower" by Nelly Babe. All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The order of service is from Lutheran Service Book, © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted under oneLicense.net #A-710394. 2026 Bulletins (Year A) 7aP July 12, 2026b (setting 3)



Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

Faith Lutheran
Church

P O Box 1164
Columbus, Indiana 47202
812/342-3587
www.faitthonthebe.org

Church Office
office@faitthonthebe.org
Missy Collins
Leah Otte

Pastors
Josiah Fitch
pastor@faitthonthebe.org
Richard Tremain
Pastor Emeritus

Church Council
Tom Rafferty, Chair

**If you would like a
Board Chair's email,
contact the church office*

Church Elders
Michael Waltz Chair
Church Trustees
Bill Schnackel, Chair

Mercy Ministry
Regina Allman, Chair
Stewardship Ministry
Chair

Christian Education
Susan Wältz, Chair
Preschool Committee Chair
Child Care Director
preschool@faitthonthebe.org