

EMMANUEL

Lutheran Church



“A sower went
out to sow.”

MATTHEW 13:3, NRSV

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026

Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 8

All are welcome...and we do mean ALL. No matter who you are, what you look like, where you are from, or who you love. We are all children of God and loved by God. And just as God loves all of us, we are called to love one another as well.

Call to Worship (Chimes)

Welcome & Announcements – Visitors are asked to fill out a Welcome card from the pew racks and give it to the Assisting Minister during the prelude.

Prayers – You may add to the prayers today by filling out an ivory prayer card found in the pew racks. Prayer cards are collected during the prelude.

Prelude *And Can It Be?* - Campbell

***PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

*The congregation responds by reading the words in **bold print**.*

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, we confess to you all our sins, the wrongs we have done and the good we have left undone. We have tried to carry what only you can hold. We have trusted our own strength when you offered us your rest. Our burden is heavy and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Your arms are open and your table is set. Your love is patient and your grace is enough. Restore us to dwell in your peace. Renew in us a spirit willing to receive what we could never earn. In Christ's name we pray, **Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." The one who speaks these words is not far away. He is here; among the weary, the burdened, the worn. He has carried the weight of our sin to the cross and left it there. You do not have to carry it anymore. In the name of God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:**

God of the Fertile Fields

ACS 1063



1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused, your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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*Greeting

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

And also with you.

*Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of



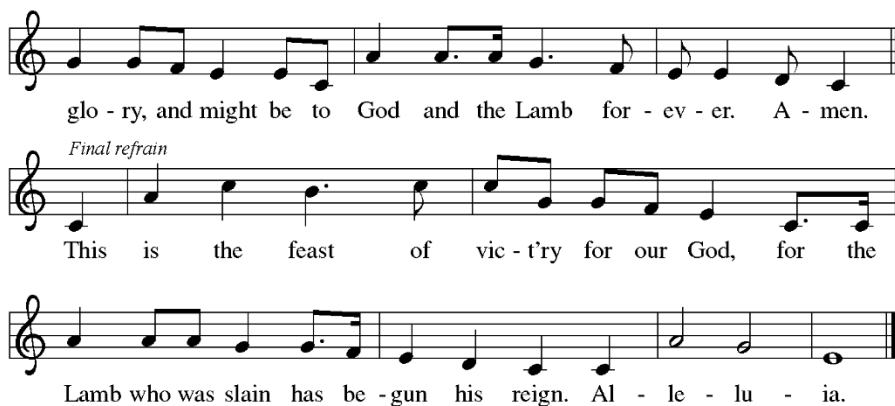
vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-



le-lu-ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,



***Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, **we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Musical Offering

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Jerry Gartrell

- Townend

First Lesson – Isaiah 55:10-13

The First Lesson is from the 55th chapter of Isaiah.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ 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 succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy

and be led back in peace;

the mountains and the hills before you

shall burst into song,

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 be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm – Psalm 65

Responsive Reading

¹ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

² **To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

³ Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴ **Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell
there!**

**They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the
holiness of your temple.**

⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our
salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

⁶ **You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

⁷ You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸ **Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at
your marvelous signs;**

you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;
the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak
themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Lesson – Romans 6:12-23

The Second Lesson is from the 6th chapter of Romans.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation



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

***Gospel – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Rob Eller

Hymn of the Day: *We Plow the Fields and Scatter

ELW 681

***Apostles’ Creed**

With the whole church let us confess our faith:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People (please sit)

After each prayer, please offer the words:

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

*Thank you for placing your offering in the **Offering Box** before the service began. Your continued financial support of this congregation helps us to do God's work in the community and the world.*

Offering Song

The Trumpets Sound

ELW 531



Ta - bles are la - den with good things; O taste the



peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;



he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.

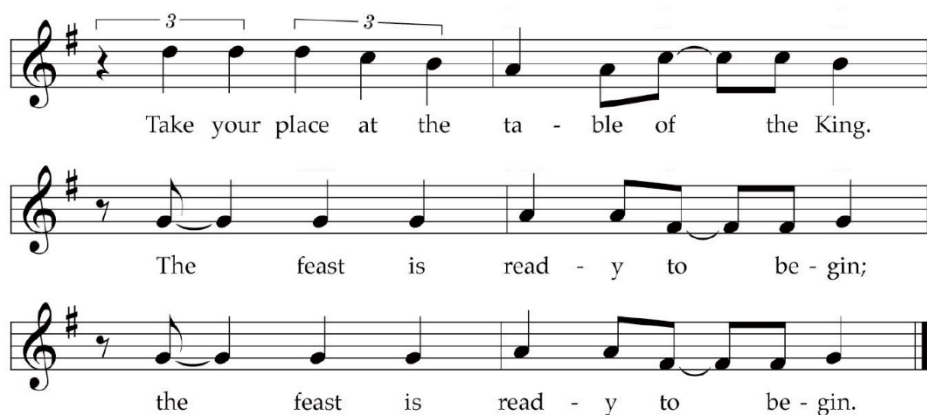
Refrain



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



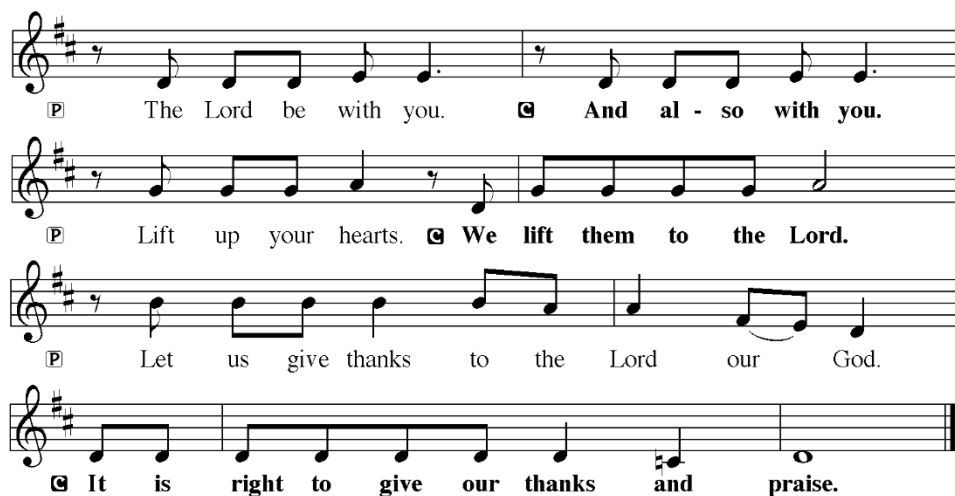
Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Offertory Prayer (please sit)

Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving (Please Stand)



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise . . .
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus (Please Stand)**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Eucharistic prayer (Please Stand)**

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your
holy church, now and forever. **Amen**

***Lord's Prayer (Please Stand)**

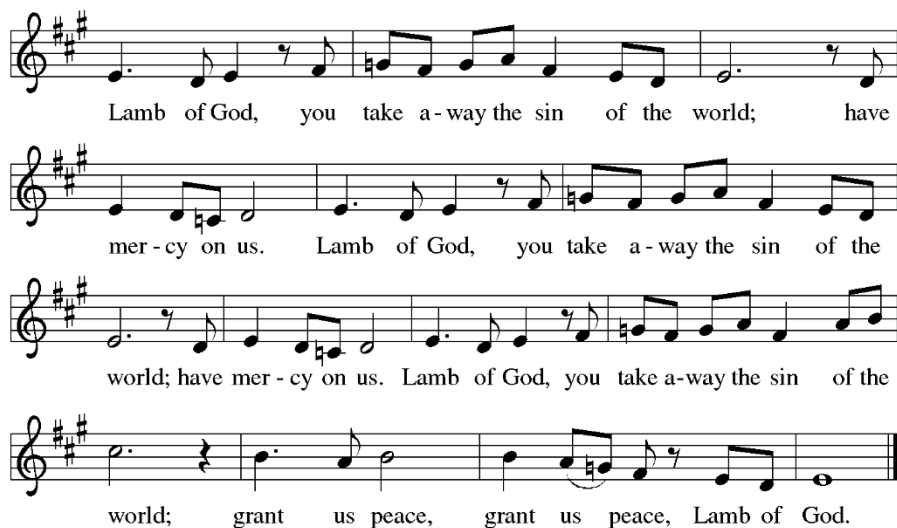
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,

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.

***Invitation to Communion (Please Stand)**

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!
 Thanks be to God!

Communion Song



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Distribution (*Your choice of WHITE wine or PURPLE grape juice*)

The body of Christ given for you.
 The blood of Christ shed for you.

***Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
 in his grace. Amen

***Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

***Benediction**

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, ☩ who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn:** *On What Has Now Been Sown* **ELW 550**

***Dismissal**

While our worship here has ended, let us continue through our service to others. So go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Now Thank We All Our God* **- Crueger**

Today's Worship Leaders and Assistants – July 12, 2026

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Robert M. Eller | Assisting Minister: Jerry Gartrell
Greeter: Wayne York | Lector: Jerry Gartrell
Communion Assistants: Rob and Karen Sterling
Worship Coordinator: Ruth Patrick | Organist: John Foust

Next Sunday's Worship Leaders and Assistants – July 19, 2026

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Robert M. Eller | Assisting Minister: Tricia Self
Greeter: Marcia Lile | Lector: Marcia Lile
Communion Assistants: John and Barb Sandy
Worship Coordinator: Ruth Patrick | Organist: John Foust

CHURCH COUNCIL

Neil Rupe – President	Ken Lab – Vice President	
Wayne York – Secretary	Deb Ritenour – Treasurer (non-voting)	
Paula Freeland	Marsha Smith	Heidi Torch

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion: Please fill out a communion card and place it in the basket during communion. If you are unable to come forward, Pastor Rob will bring it back to your seat. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

Mid-Day Prayer Break: Do you have a lot on your mind? Come see Pastor Rob for the Mid-Day Prayer Break every Wednesday from 11am - 1pm outside in front of the church for conversation, prayer, healing, and Holy Communion.

Christmas in July: Join us Saturday July 25 at 5:30pm for our annual Christmas in July movie and pizza party. Signup sheet is in the lobby.

Evangelism Team: Pastor Rob has made it a priority this summer to restart the Evangelism committee as a team to create projects and opportunities for outreach into the community that we are called to serve. If you are interested in helping, please see Pastor Rob.

GriefShare: GriefShare support group has wrapped up for the season. Please see Wayne York with any questions.

Pastoral Visits: If you or anyone you know would like a visit from Pastor Rob, please call the church office or Pastor Rob to make arrangements.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday July 13

- * AA Meeting – 12:00pm
- * Finance Meeting – 6:30pm
- * Church Council – 7:00pm

Tuesday July 14

- * Pastor's Group – 11:00am

Wednesday July 15

- * Mid-Day Prayer Break –
11:00am-1:00pm

Thursday July 16

Friday July 17

Saturday July 18

Sunday July 19

- * Sunday worship – 9:30am

Attendance 7/5: 25

July Benevolence:

T4C

(Tuscarawas County Council
for Church and Community)

Readings for Next

Sunday

Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalms 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



Altar Flowers Are Given to the glory of God...

In honor of Chuck Moore's 93rd birthday and his California and Ohio families by Chuck Moore

Church Family and Friends in Need of Prayer...

Assisted Living/Nursing Home:

Kay Frantz, Dick Hugh, Myrna Hugh, Larry Humbert, Peggy Immel,
Shirley Yoder

Other Members:

Sam Bates, Shirley Brug, Jim Deibel, Ed Fishel, Dean Fisher, John Frank,
Dorothy Glass, Diana Gray, Breanne Mathias, Susan Miller, Marsha Mills,
Chuck Moore, Ruth Patrick, Naomi Potts, Chris Smith, Cindy Smith,
Marilyn Swaldo, Judy Swinehart, Sandi Hannenkrat-Wemple,
Virginia Wyer

Friends and Family:

Names in **BOLD** listed above were prayed for at the altar last Sunday



EMMANUEL

Lutheran Church

◀ FAITH IN ACTION ▶

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