

# **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Missouri Synod*

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

July 16, 2023

Divine Service, Setting One – LSB 151

10:30am – livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)



## **AS WE GATHER**

*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, has 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” (Rom. 8:15). Thus being “led by the Spirit of God,” we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we “also be glorified with him” (Rom. 8:17).

**Rev. Eric J. Edwards** ✠ **Rev. Christopher Beck** ✠ **Rev. Liwei Sui**

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# ✠ ✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠ ✠

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** – *Partita on “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”* (arr. Healey Willan)

## HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 901 – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so  
 3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
 un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,  
 du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
 gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
 done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
 There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O  
 Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I  
 May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
 While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
 en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!  
 hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
 foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text and tune: Public domain

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## $\text{✝}$ $\text{✝}$ $\text{✝}$ WORD $\text{✝}$ $\text{✝}$ $\text{✝}$

### **INTROIT – Psalm 103:15-19; antiphon: Psalm 103:8**

- P** The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- C** **As for man, his days are like grass;  
he flourishes like a flower of the field;**
- P** for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.
- C** **But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness to children's children,**
- P** to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.
- C** **The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,  
and his kingdom rules over all.**  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**  
**The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

### **KYRIE – Lord, Have Mercy – Mark 10:47**

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

# **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** – *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

- P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



### **SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY**

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**P** ... one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

### **FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 55:10-13 – God’s powerful Word for all**

<sup>10</sup>“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,  
<sup>11</sup>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.  
<sup>12</sup>“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.  
<sup>13</sup>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.”

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

### **GRADUAL – Romans 11:33, 36**

- A** Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!  
**C** For from him and through him and to him are all things.  
To him be glory forever. Amen.

## SECOND LESSON – Romans 8:12-17 – Life through the Spirit

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>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!” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

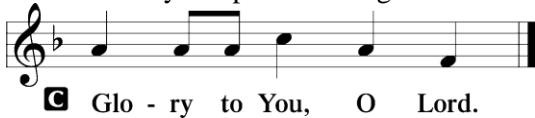
**C** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA and COMMON VERSE – John 6:68



## HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 – The parable of the sower

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.



<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup>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, <sup>6</sup>but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

<sup>18</sup>“Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>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 hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

**10:30 am – CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 577 – Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like  
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This  
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The  
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of  
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in  
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a  
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.  
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.  
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.  
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

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**SERMON – *The Work of the Word* – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

**8 am – NICENE CREED**

**G** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was

buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

#### 10:30 am & 5 pm – APOSTLES' CREED

**C** 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

**A** Lord, in your mercy,

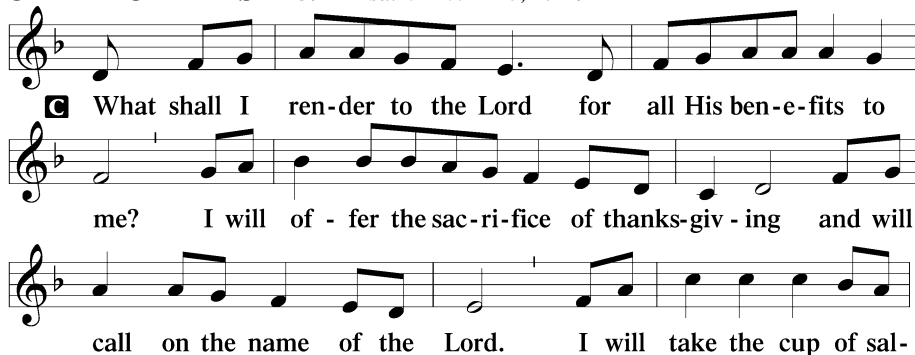
**C** hear our prayer.

**A** ... one God, now and forever

**C** Amen.

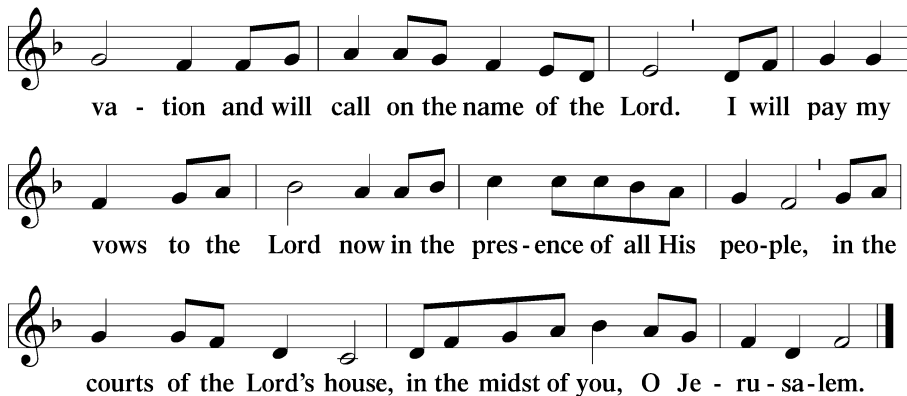
#### OFFERING – Partita on “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast” (arr. Healey Willan)

#### OFFERTORY – LSB 159 – Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-





**10:30 am & 5 pm** – Continues with the **Lord's Prayer** (*page 10*)  
and concludes with the **Benediction and Closing Hymn** (*page 15*).

## ✠ ✠ ✠ SACRAMENT ✠ ✠ ✠ beginning at LSB 160

### For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that **in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is *truly* present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.**

Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe, have been baptized, and have been taught** according to our Lord's command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

- **If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith**, we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- **If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper**, please speak with one of our pastors.

### PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts

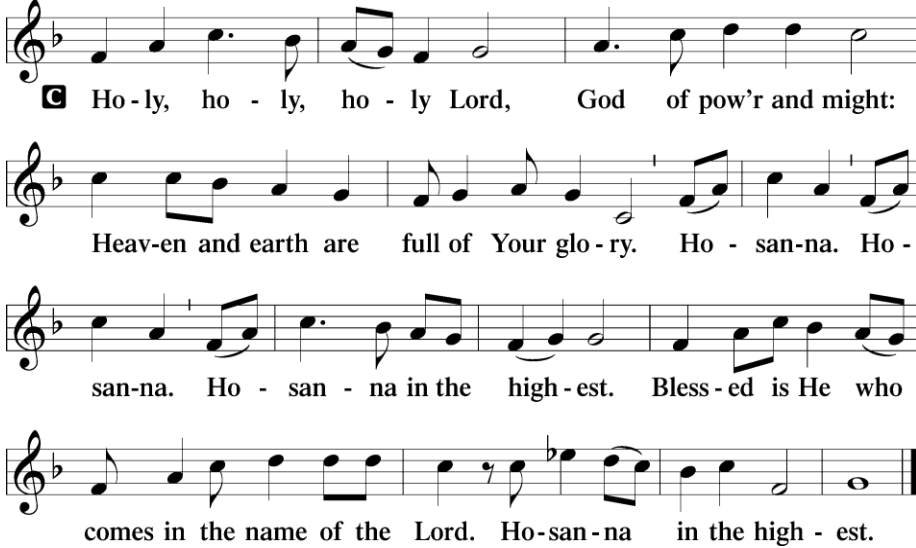
**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS – LSB 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** ... one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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 OUR LORD

**P** 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  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

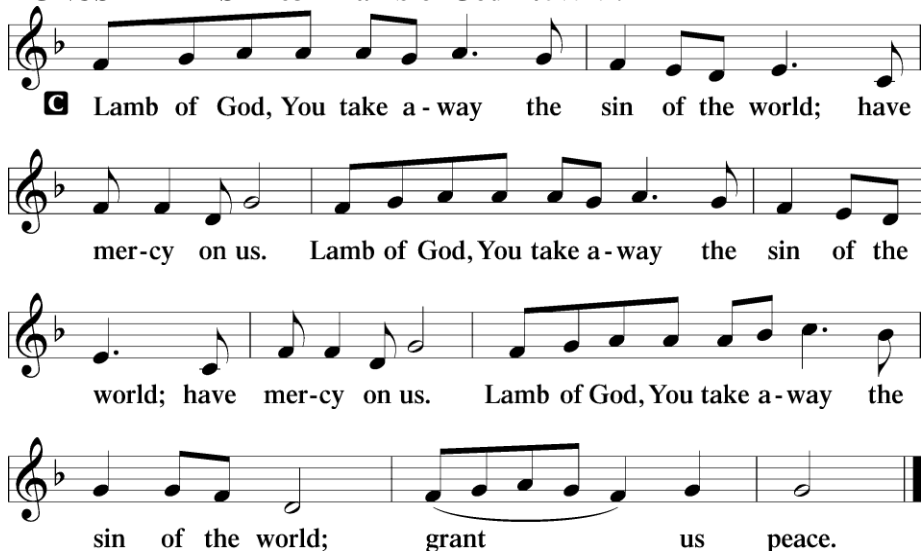
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – *John 20:19*

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

**C** Amen.

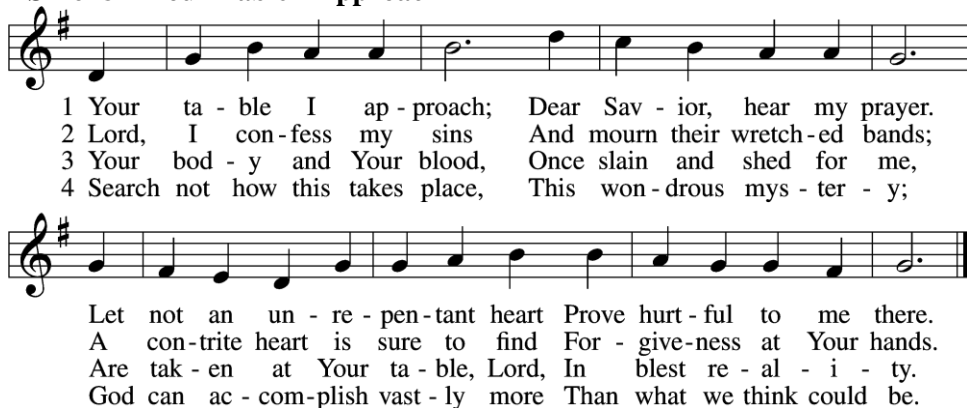
### AGNUS DEI – LSB 163 – Lamb of God – *John 1:29*



**C** 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.

### DISTRIBUTION

#### LSB 628 – Your Table I Approach



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.

#### Distribution Notes:

If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

**Non-alcoholic** grape juice, containing *a trace amount of wine*, is available in the center of the tray.

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.

Text and tune: Public domain

# LSB 626 – Come, Let Us Eat



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,



Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
In His pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

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# LSB 652 – Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted



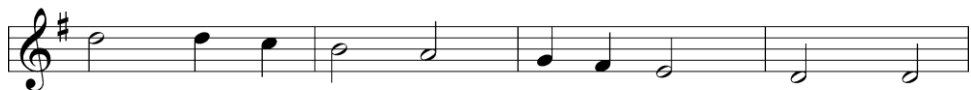
1 Fa - ther, we thank Thee who hast plant - ed Thy ho - ly  
2 Watch o'er Thy Church, O Lord, in mer - cy, Save it from



name with - in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im -  
e - vil, guard it still, Per - fect it in Thy love, u -



mor - tal Je - sus, Thy Son, to us im - parts.  
nite it, Cleansed and con - formed un - to Thy will.



Thou, Lord, didst make all for Thy plea - sure, Didst  
As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides, Was



give us food for all our days, Giv - ing in Christ the  
in this bro - ken bread made one, So from all lands Thy



Bread e - ter - nal; Thine is the pow'r, be Thine the praise.  
Church be gath - ered In - to Thy king - dom by Thy Son.

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## LSB 725 – Children of the Heavenly Father




1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His

in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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 Tune: Public domain

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – LSB 164 – Thank the Lord



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'-ry-one what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy

with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.



## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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

## BENEDICTION – *Numbers 6:24-26*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 921 – On What Has Now Been Sown



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

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## SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POST-SERVICE MUSIC** – *Partita on “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”* (arr. Healey Willan)



## TODAY

- **9:15am** Sunday School & Bible Class
- **5:00-7:30pm** FLY (Laser Lite & Bruster's)

## Tuesday, July 18

- **5:00pm** Lutheran Men's Gemütlichkeit

## Wednesday, July 19

- **6:30am** FINAL Breakfast Bible Study (Cloverleaf Restaurant)



## Thursday, July 20

**JOY Group** - Meet at church at **11:00 am** to carpool to **Cedar Creek Eatery** in Martinsville for lunch. **Sign up** on the JOY Group clipboard across from the Library.

**Saturday, July 29 – Feast of Saint Olaf** (9:30am-4:00pm at University Lutheran)

**Sunday, August 6 – Christian Education Sunday**

**Sunday, August 20 (3-5pm) – Church Picnic**

**Friday, September 8 (6:00pm) – Sojourn House 5K**



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