

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 12, 2026

8:00 am



Zion Lutheran Church
1400 S Duluth Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-338-5226
www.zionlutheransf.com

ORDER OF WORSHIP

AS WE GATHER

Trust, writes the prophet Isaiah, that God's Word has the power to accomplish His will! "It will not return to me empty but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." In the Gospel we see that Word in flesh doing the work of the Father, planting the seeds of the Kingdom liberally in order to produce an abundant crop, not of grain, but sons and daughters who, by faith in Christ, call this mighty and merciful God "Abba, Father."

WELCOME | ATTENDANCE | PRAYER CARDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREET ONE ANOTHER

OPENING HYMN: LSB 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty;
Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty
Waits for Him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
Filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2 Gracious God, I come before Thee;
Come Thou also unto me.
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,
There a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, O enter Thou;
Let it be Thy temple now!

- 3 Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;
Here Thy seed is duly sown.
Let my soul, where it is planted,
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,
So that all I hear may be
Fruitful unto life in me.
- 4 Thou my faith increase and quicken;
Let me keep Thy gift divine,
Howsoe'er temptations thicken;
May Thy Word still o'er me shine
As my guiding star through life,
As my comfort in all strife.
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;
Let Thy will be done indeed.
May I undisturbed draw near Thee
While Thou dost Thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
Here is balm for all our woes.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess together:

People: 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.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

INTROIT: Psalm 103:15-19, antiphon Psalm 103:8

Pastor: The life of mortals is like grass,

People: they flourish like a flower of the field;

Pastor: The wind blows over it and it is gone,

People: and its place remembers it no more.

Pastor: But from everlasting to everlasting

People: the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children

Pastor: With those who keep his covenant

People: and remember to obey his precepts.

Pastor: The Lord has established his throne in heaven,

People: and his kingdom rules over all.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: The Lord is compassionate and gracious,

People: slow to anger, abounding in love.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People (sing): Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People (sing): Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: LSB 686

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
May I still Thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.
- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day. Text: Public domain

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray:

People: Blessed Lord, since you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may 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.

TIME IN THE WORD

Children's Bible Reading: Page 292

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

As 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, so 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. You 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. Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord's renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever."

Reader: This Is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Romans 8:12-17

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now 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.

Reader: This Is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise out of respect for the words and ministry of Jesus Christ.

RESPONSE

People (sing): Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

People (sing): Glory to You, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People (sing): Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: LSB 827 Hark, The Voice of Jesus Calling

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,
 “Who will go and work today?
 Fields are white and harvests waiting—
 Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth;
 Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying,
 “Here am I, send me, send me”?
- 2 Some take up His task in morning,
 To their Lord responding soon;
Some are called in heat of midday,
 Others late in afternoon;
Even as the sun is setting,
 Some are sent into the fields,
There to gather in the bounty
 That God’s Word so richly yields.
- 3 For as rain and snow from heaven
 Water seeds in dusty soil,
Causing them to bud and flower,
 Giving bread to those who toil;
So the Lord sends forth His promise,
 Words of life and joy and peace—
Never void to Him returning,
 Bearing fruit with great increase.
- 4 Harken to the Lord whose coming
 Marks the time when grace shall end,
When with His angelic reapers
 He in glory shall descend.
Soon the night, the final harvest;
 Soon the time for work shall cease.
Then the souls His grace has garnered
 Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

THE SERMON

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.

OFFERING | TREASURE BOX

OFFERING HYMN: LSB 894 For the Fruits of His Creation

- 1 For the fruits of His creation,
 Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation,
 Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping,
 Thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labor,
 God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
 God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
 God's will is done.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 577 Almighty God, Your Word is Cast

- 1 Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.
- 2 Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.
- 4 So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

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SEND OFF

Leader: At Zion Lutheran we are committed to reaching out,
strengthening the saved,

All: and serving Jesus Christ by serving others!