

Trinity Lutheran Church

*Our lives are like seeds
sown in the earth.*

*Even
from what appears
to be little,
dormant,
or dead,
God promises
a harvest.*



July 12, 2026
Common Time 6

GATHERING HYMN:

For the Fruit of All Creation (ELW 679)

♩ = 120



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Based on Matthew 13:1-9.

Blessed are you, O God, Sower of every good seed. You scatter your Word with generosity and grace, seeking to bring life in every place. Yet we confess that our hearts are not always ready to receive what you give.

At times, we are like the path—our hearts hardened by fear, disappointment, or indifference. Your Word falls upon us, but we do not allow it to sink deeply into our lives.

At times, we are like rocky ground—quick to rejoice in your promises, yet reluctant to trust you when challenges arise. Our faith is shallow, and we struggle to endure.

At times, we are like soil filled with thorns. Worries, ambitions, possessions, and endless distractions crowd our hearts and choke the life you seek to grow within us.

Forgive us, Lord. Break up the hard places within us. Remove the stones that keep us from deep faith. Clear away the thorns that compete for our attention. By your Spirit, make us good soil, ready to receive your Word and bear the fruits of love, mercy, justice, and peace.

The Sower does not give up on the field.

Again and again, God scatters grace upon us. In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven, your failures are redeemed, and your hearts are made new. The Holy Spirit continues to cultivate faith within you, that you may grow in hope and bear fruit for the sake of the world.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSIONAL HYMN:

On What Has Now Been Sown (ELW 550)

♩ = 135



1 On what has now been sown your bless - ing Lord, be - stow; the
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
cept what is your own and par - don what is ours. Our prais - es,
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Based on Psalm 119:105.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. In a world that often feels uncertain and shadowed by fear, guide us by the light of your wisdom and love. When the road before us is unclear, grant us trust to take the next faithful step. When we wander, gently lead us back to your way. Through the Scriptures, through the witness of your people, and through the living Word, illumine our hearts that we may walk in faith, serve our neighbors in love, and follow where you lead. We pray this in the name of Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 25:19-33

¹⁹ These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord.

²³ And the Lord said to her,
"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other;
the elder shall serve the younger."

²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.)

³¹ Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright."

³² Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?"

³³ Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light upon my path.

¹⁰⁶ **I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.**

¹⁰⁷ I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ **Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments.**

¹⁰⁹ My life is always in danger,
yet I do not forget your teaching.

¹¹⁰ **The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.**

¹¹¹ Your decrees are my inheritance forever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹² **I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
forever and to the end.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

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.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth 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

SERMON HYMN:

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)

♩ = 95



APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Contact Cards available in your pew!

Serving in Worship

THIS SUNDAY — Jul 12, 2026

Altar: **James Apronti**
Livestream: **Larry Oolman**
Reader: **OPEN**
Assistant: **OPEN**
Fellowship: **OPEN**

NEXT SUNDAY — Jul 19, 2026

Altar: **James Apronti**
Livestream: **OPEN**
Reader: **OPEN**
Assistant: **OPEN**
Fellowship: **OPEN**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Holy God,
we were yours before we drew breath,
and still we will be yours when the pulse of life ceases.
In every moment,
we belong to you.

We thank you for the desire of our parents who gave us life.
May the love we have received spill gratitude from our hearts.
May the wounds we carry open our hearts to the needs of others.
May we recognize in your mercy the faithfulness
that redeems every human bond.

We lift to you now all that seems irreconcilable in our families....
You are the One who walks with us in times of celebration and grief,
and you have a purpose more glorious than we can imagine.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift to you now all that seems irreconcilable in our city....
You have made us for a noble purpose,
to love and care for each other at every turn.
Give us the compassion and skill to love our neighbor
and seek the well-being of those in need.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift to you now all that seems irreconcilable in your church....
You have given us the gift of the indwelling Christ,
that your church may be faithful, loving, and wise.
Give us strength to follow Christ's indwelling.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift to you now all that seems irreconcilable in your world....
You have created one human family to live and flourish in peace.
Give us the wisdom to order ourselves
so that all may find shelter, sustenance, and love.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

And we lift to you those who have died.
You call us into communion in worship
to glorify you and sing your praise.
Make us one with the saints, who have found their eternal rest in you,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Please place offering in one of the Bulletin Stand offering plates at the end of worship as you leave the church.

OFFERTORY: *God, Whose Farm Is All Creation* (ELW 734)



1 God, whose farm is all cre - a - tion, take the grat - i -
2 Take our plow - ing, seed - ing, reap - ing, hopes and fears of
3 All our la - bor, all our watch - ing, all our cal - en -

tude we give; take the fin - est of our har - vest,
sun and rain, all our think - ing, plan - ning, wait - ing,
dar of care in these crops of your cre - a - tion,

crops we grow that we may live.
rip - ened in this fruit and grain.
take, O God: they are our prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

Based on Matthew 13:18-23.

Let us pray together.

Giver of life,

**we do not want the cares of the world and the lure of possessions
to choke your word among us.**

**As the sower casts seeds abundantly, hopefully,
so we long to participate in your seeding of the world.**

Receive these gifts as tokens of our lives.

**Send your cultivating Spirit to work among us
until we yield and grow in grace,
for we pray in the name of Jesus,
who came out of love for the world. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

COMMUNION

All are welcome to join in the gift of Holy Communion.

White grape juice is available and all altar bread is gluten-free.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy,
strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent
love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our lord and savior Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

BLESSING

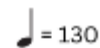
And sisters and brothers,
sow the gospel wherever you go—
not judging the soil on which you stand—
for God brings forth fruit from unexpected places.

May you go forth in joy and be led back in peace
this day and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

Sent Forth by God's Blessing (ELW 547)

 = 130



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er liv-ing,
the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—
The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,
the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.
The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing
to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

TRINITY THREADS: STORIES FROM *DOWNSTAIRS*



Joy: *"I found a dress for my grandson's graduation. I felt so beautiful!"*

Luwana: *"I found an outfit for my interview. I felt so confident!"*

Nikki: *"I found summer sandals that actually fit. They are so comfortable!"*

And Leylani, an immigrant from China where she went through the Cultural Revolution. She came in with a plastic grocery bag twisted through her belt loops to hold up her pants. We helped her find a pretty belt, and she now wears it every time she visits: *"I never had anything like this before!"*