

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026

WELCOME

*A warm welcome to visitors who join us today to worship our Risen Lord!
We invite you to pick up a Visitor's Packet as you leave worship today.
Thank you for joining us this morning! We are blessed by your presence.*

Children are always welcome at worship.

*If desired, there is an unstaffed nursery available for parents and their children
on the second floor in the education wing. Take the first left down the hallway, and
the nursery is the first door on your right.*

*Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices
for today's worship are available.
Please feel free to ask an usher if interested.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST July 12 - 19

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Ladies Breakfast at Green Village LWR Quilters
Saturday		Laundry Day ChambersFest
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion Social Missions Meeting following Worship

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
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.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
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."

In the name of God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

God, We Gather As Your People

Text: David Lohman

Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

Refrain



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



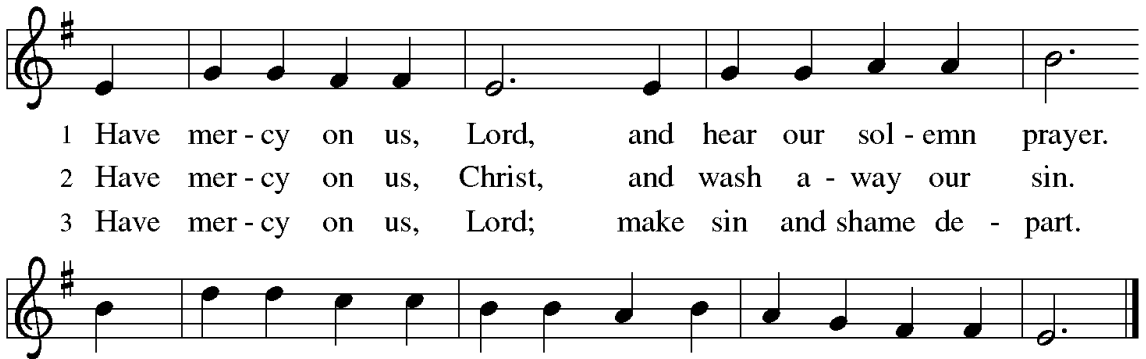
wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



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.

KYRIE



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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.**

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 65:1-13

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 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.

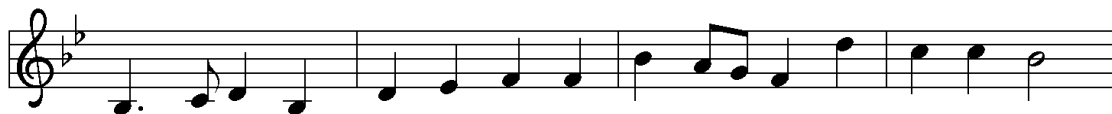
⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him 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.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to 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.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Following the sermon, silence is kept to reflect upon God’s message.

PASTORAL PRAYER

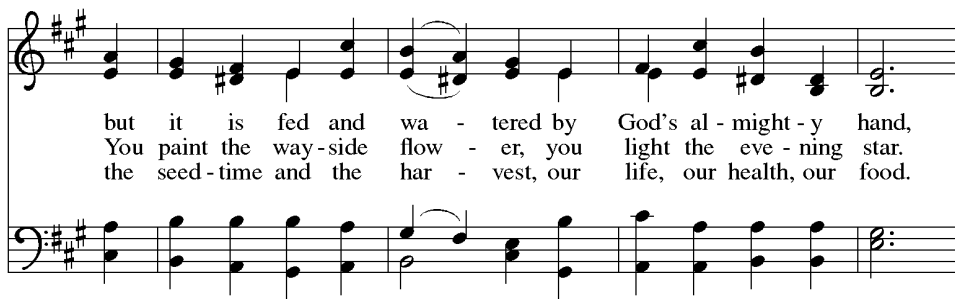
Following the prayer, please stand as you are able.

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

Text: Matthias Claudius, Jane M. Campbell Music: WIR PHLUGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz



1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



the breez-es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh-ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.

We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The assembly is seated.

OUR RESPONSE

GATHERING OF GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Online giving is available at felcc.org or by scanning this QR code.



SPECIAL MUSIC

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

**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.**

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our 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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever more.

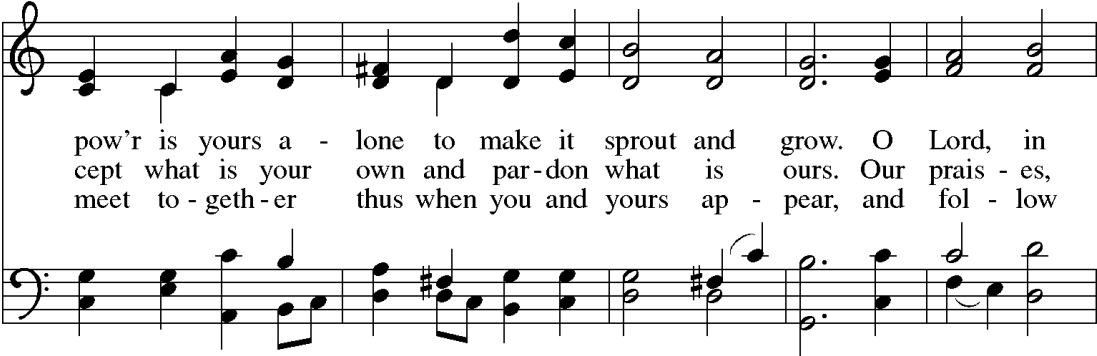
Amen.

On What Has Now Been Sown

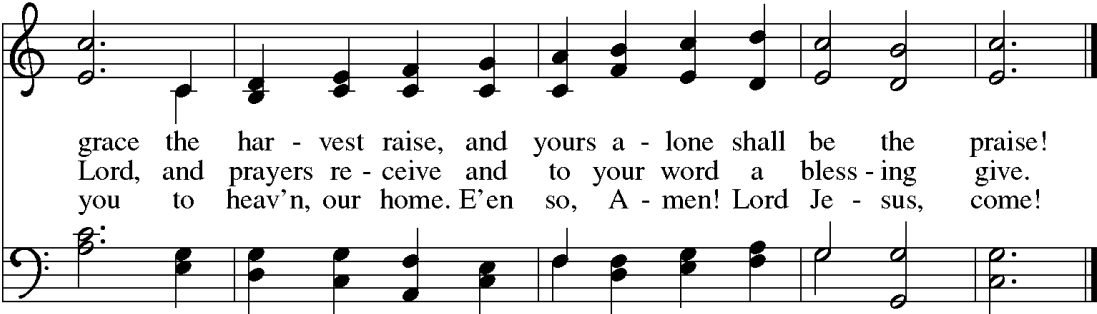
Text: John Newton Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall



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!

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #33504. Hymns reprinted by permission under One License #A-727079 and CCLI #11318988



Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God
in loving memory of Clarence Paul
by Dalton and Julie Paul

Please remember in your prayers ...



Healing: Beth Johnson (7/16), Bob Hockensmith (7/22),
Marcia Hunt (8/6), Alvino Long (7/28), **Don Mayer** (8/6),
Bill Nienstedt (7/30), **Kristy Nienstedt** (7/30).

Grieving: Family and Friends of Bob Herbert
Family and Friends of Mary Wingert

Continuing Prayers: Madeline Artman, **Joanne Caskey**, **June Diehl**,
Harold Forrester, **Charles Kampmeyer**, **Dalton Paul**, **Julie Paul**,
Connie Wilkins

Military: Tawny & Brad Arnold, **Hunter Boock**, Derek Haugh

ATTENDANCE July 5 41 in person 18 online

LADIES BREAKFAST is on Wednesday, July 15 at 8:30 a.m. at Green Village Restaurant. All ladies welcome!

LAUNDRY DAY will be Saturday, July 18. Come and join us in sharing the joy of helping others. Contact: Joyce Ray at 717-658-6077.



SOCIAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING will follow worship on Sunday, July 19. Please join us!



VENEZUELA HELP Two powerful earthquakes have struck Venezuela. Countless families are without shelter, safety or access to necessities. Lutheran Disaster Response is responding through long-standing partners in the region including the Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela. These partners are working to identify urgent needs, and coordinate a plan for long-term assistance. To contribute financially to these efforts, make a check payable to First Lutheran and write Venezuela on the memo line or the envelope and place in the offering plate. Or you are welcome to send the check directly so it arrives sooner. In that case make checks payable to: Lutheran Disaster Response; P.O. Box 1809; Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Thank you for your care.

STREET CLOSURE Washington Street will be closed between First Lutheran Parking Lot entrance and Southgate traffic light for an extended period.

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT Join us on Saturday, August 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. as we distribute socks and underwear to elementary age young people in our community. Please contact Mary Beth Warne McGraw at 717-372-8282 to let her know of your interest.



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS Our WELCA members put together Personal Care Kits to send to LWR each year. With the help of an Action Team Grant from Thrivent our goal this year is to put 100 health kits together. A health kit consists of a bath towel, sturdy comb, nail clipper, two bars of soap and an adult toothbrush. We are asking members of First to contribute 4 oz. bars of soap and toothbrushes. On a Sunday in September our youth and church members will assemble these health kits in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. We are hoping everyone can help with this project.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL St. Luke Lutheran Church (2695 Luther Drive; Chambersburg) has invited First Lutheran Children, ages 5-11 to join them for VBS this summer. The theme is Champions for Christ. VBS will be from 6 to 8 p.m. July 26-30. Preregistration is required. There is no cost. Call 717-261-1213 for questions or to register. Join us for an exciting week of faith, fun, and fellowship!





MINI GOLF SCRAMBLE Join Christians in central PA to support Hogar Miguel Orphanage in Guatemala. (Associated with Tree-4-Hope). The scramble will be fun for all ages and abilities including children. It is being held on Saturday, August 29 from 10 a.m. to 1

p.m. at Challenge Family Fun Center located at 366 Middletown Rd. Hummelstown, PA. This family-friendly event is a fun twist on the traditional golf scramble and is designed for everyone. Participants will enjoy a day of mini golf, fellowship, lunch, and a chance to win some great prizes. Scan the QR code to register.



STAINED GLASS GIVING Work is happening on the stained glass windows. The final bill balance of \$59,000 is coming due soon. Thank you to those who have given generously.

SCAN (Student Clothing Assistance Network) Working with the social workers of the school district, SCAN volunteers fill emergency requests for clothing and school supplies. When a request is received, it is assigned to volunteers to acquire the necessary items, either through purchase or donation. When requests are received the need is urgent. The children involved are in crisis situations—domestic upheaval, homelessness, unexpected relocations. Please contact Tim or Mary: 717-264-4759, 717-491-0611, tim@gotwald.org, mary@gotwald.org Thank you for considering.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>July 12</u>	<u>July 19</u>	<u>July 26</u>
Lector:	Sally Herrit	Jane Love	Gary Fleegal
Communion		Jim Brown	
Assistants:		Deb Fleegal Karen Sloan	
Greeters:	Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy	Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy	Gary Kennedy Marianne Kennedy
Altar Guild:	Barb Evans	Barb Evans	Barb Evans
Ushers:	Volunteers	Volunteers	Volunteers



43 West Washington Street
Chambersburg Pa 17201
www.felcc.org
FELCCoffice@gmail.com
717-264-2015

Pastor
Pastoral Assistant
Director of Church Music
Parish Administrator
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Technical Lead
Custodian

The Rev. Jane Nicholson
The Rev. Charles Kampmeyer
Freda J. Dorand, Deacon
Ashley Hessong
Sally Herritt
Carol McCoy
Daniel Worcester
Jennifer Flores

Church Office Hours – Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

We welcome visitors this morning.

Please pick up a **visitor's packet**. They are located at the top of the steps.
at the rear of the church or on the table at the elevator entrance.

Our Mission

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to be the light of Jesus,
burning brightly and vigorously in our community.

Worship Schedule

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

also on Facebook at First Evangelical Lutheran Church
and on our webpage at www.FELCC.org

ALL are invited to hear and receive God's blessing in Jesus,
and to worship with us.