

# Welcome

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**7th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**ELW Holy Communion Setting 3**  
**Sunday, July 12, 2026**

## **Welcome to American Lutheran Church!**

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest book at the usher stand. If you have any questions or need assistance, an usher will be happy to help.

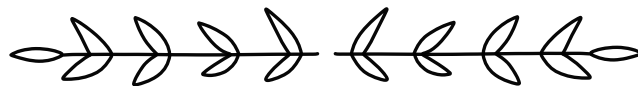
All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward with your hands folded.

Whether you are visiting or searching for a church home, know that you are always welcome here.



## **Introduction to the Service**

*God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.*



## **OUR MISSION**

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you

## **CONTACT US**

Church office: 319-827-6626

Church website: [www.americanlutheranjesup.org](http://www.americanlutheranjesup.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alcjesup/>

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**Welcome to worship, we're glad you're here! If you do not have a church home, please know that you are welcome to make this your church home.**

**God's blessings to you!**

**Prelude: Cassie Gorman**

**Welcome & Worship Announcements**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

**Gathering Song: Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast (ELW 516)**

**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 (ELW p. 184) Congregation sings**

**Prayer of the Day**

**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.**

**Kids Time**

**First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13**

*God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.*

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>10</sup> 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, <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 succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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 reading may be concluded: Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13**

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

<sup>4</sup> **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. R**

<sup>5</sup> 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.

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

<sup>7</sup> You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

<sup>8</sup> **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. R**

<sup>9</sup> 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.

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

<sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

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

<sup>13</sup> May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing. R

### **Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11**

*There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.*

A reading from Romans.

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

<sup>1</sup> Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> 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, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> 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.**

**<sup>1</sup>Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142)**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

*In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a

<sup>3</sup>path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> 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. <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 brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> If you have ears, 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 is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on 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 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. <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> 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**

**Hymn of the Day: *As Rain from the Clouds (ELW 508)***

**Apostles' Creed (found in the back cover of the red Hymnal or page 105)**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Petitions end with: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Last petition:

Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Now we'll share that peace with one another.*

**Offering: God of the Fertile Fields (All Creation Sings ACS #1063)**

**1 God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:  
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
that all in ev'ry land be clothed and fed.**

**3 As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows.  
Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused, no humble task refused  
your love bestows.**

**Offering Prayer**

**Thanksgiving at the Table (ELW Pg. 144)**

**Lord's Prayer( ELW pg. 145)**

**Invitation to Communion**

**Communion**

**Communion Song Lamb of God (ELW p. 146)**

**Table Blessing**

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

**Prayer after Communion**

**Sending Announcements**

**Blessing**

The God of glory, ☩ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in  
you, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song: *Light Dawns on a Weary World* (ELW 726)**

**Dismissal: Go in peace and serve the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude: Cassie Gorman**

**Join us for fellowship in the Fireside Room  
Treats supplied by Chris Waring**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Home Communion Volunteers**

We are looking for individuals interested in distributing communion to church members who are unable to attend worship services in person. Pastor Susan has a list of members requesting monthly visits and will provide training for those interested. If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Susan.

**Remember our members in your prayers:** Wendell, Shirley, Bill, Sharon, Jeanne, Debbie, Emelia, Lori, Joyce & Denny, Marie, Kaye

**Prayer Chain:** Contact Kaye Jones [kayejns@gmail.com](mailto:kayejns@gmail.com) or the office ([secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)) with any prayer concerns.

**Summer Food Program:** During the months of June, July, and August, the Jesup Ministerial Association will provide food assistance to 13 families twice each month. American Lutheran Church has committed to donating boxed oatmeal and canned fruit for this ministry. Donations may be placed in the grocery cart located by the front entrance.

**Parsonage Needs**

As we prepare the parsonage for Pastor Susan's use during her time with us, we are looking for donations of bookcases and basic cleaning supplies. If you are able to help, please contact Pastor Susan or a member of the Church Council. Thank you for your generosity!

**Military Address:** Christa Leach, 387 AEW (CSS), OPC 1201 Box 72  
APO AE 09309 As of now, this will be through the end of Sept.

**Help Share Our Video Ministry**

Would you be willing to learn how to record our worship services? We are looking for a few volunteers to join our video ministry team. No previous experience is necessary—we'll provide the training!

By having several people share this ministry, Mike will be able to worship from the pew with his wife from time to time instead of always serving behind the camera.

If you're interested in learning or would like more information, please contact the church office or Mike. Your willingness to serve would be a wonderful blessing to our congregation.

