

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 16, 2023

The Sower Knows . . .



Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Sunday Service - 9:30am

Sunday Bible Study – after Service

Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am

Rev. Paul Pollatz

(313) 565- 9445

5323 Southfield

Allen Park, MI 48101

(734) 765–3468

Welcome! Members and Guests

We are blessed to have you here today. Please fill out the Guest/Member Attendance Card located in the pew rack in front of you. Guests please include your full address, zip code, and phone number. The cards will be collected by the ushers early in the service. Prayer Requests cards are available in the pew racks and should be handed to the ushers when the attendance cards are collected.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which Jesus' body and blood are given in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-30). When we receive the Holy Communion at a church, we are making a public statement that we agree with the teachings of that church (1 Corinthians 10:14-18). The Bible cautions us against receiving the body and blood of Christ in a manner that is spiritually harmful (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print worship guides are available at the ushers' stand.

Listening Devices

Listening devices are available; our ushers will be glad to assist you in signing one out for today's service.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available; our ushers will be glad to get them for you.

Wheelchair Accessible Seating

Wheelchair seating is located in the fifth row from the front of the church on the left and right side of the center aisle.

Church Nursery

Our Nursery is located in the Parlor, which is the first room next to the stained glass doors. The worship service can be heard in this room. The ushers can direct you to this room.

Our Divine Service, & Bible Studies

Our Divine Service is held on Sundays at 09:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Sundays after Service and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Our Bible studies are held Sep-May.

Our Vision Statement: Revitalize Within—Reach Out!

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELLS
PREPARATION

Pastor: Though you may be familiar with Jesus' parable of the sower, you may be surprised to hear that you do not really know it yet! That's because on the one hand, the Word of God does not change. Yet on the other hand, we need to keep hearing it again and again, because our circumstances are constantly changing. The parable of the sower tells of this mystery. The seed is God's Word, God's work of planting repentance and faith in ears who hear. We may think of the various kinds of soil Jesus mentions to be various sorts of people. Actually, however, He is describing each individual in their changing circumstances. There are times when we are "good soil," that is, we understand God's Word and take comfort in it. There are other times, however, when we either cannot or will not hear it. Sometimes we become hard paths, rocky or distracted by worries or fears. For this reason, God never ceases planting, speaking, and growing faith in the heart, and we return repeatedly to continue hearing, reading, learning, and receiving God's Word because He never gives up on you.

(Please stand)

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” TFBF 242

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer
that calls me from a world of care
and bids me at my Father's throne
make all my wants and wishes known
In seasons of distress and grief
my soul has often found relief
and oft escaped the tempter's snare
by thy return, sweet hour of prayer

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer
thy wings shall my petition bear
to him whose truth and faithfulness
engage the waiting soul to bless
and since he bids me seek his face
believe his word and trust his grace
I'll cast on him my ev'ry care
and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer
may I thy consolation share
till from Mount Pisgah's lofty height
I view my home and take my flight
With joy I'll hasten to the place
where God my Savior shows his face
and gladly take my station there
thy promise gained, sweet hour of prayer

INVOCATION

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

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES Titus 3:3–7

Pastor: For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures,

People: passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

Pastor: But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,

People: He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy,

Pastor: by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

People: whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

Pastor: so that being justified by His grace

People: we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the confession and absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In that divine hope, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You by not letting You have Your way with us. We have become deaf to Your Word. Because of our weak love for You and for our neighbor, we have become fruitless trees deserving only Your judgment. Therefore, we return to You today asking Your forgiveness and for the strengthening of our faith and love. By Your Word, restore us and renew us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing: upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) Amen.

(Please stand)

WORD

INTROIT Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8

Pastor: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

People: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;

People: for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.

Pastor: But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children,

People: to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

Pastor: The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.

People: 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.

Pastor: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

KYRIE (we sing)

**All: Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us
Lord, have mercy upon us**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" LSB 575 vs 1

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord God, by the power of Your Word alone, You created everything out of nothing, and You have caused us to be drawn to You in hope. Open our ears and our hearts to hear and believe Your Word this day anew that we may grow by Your grace in the faith and the love that are in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 55:10–13 ESV*

“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, 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. “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. 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.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“Sing to the Lord of Harvest” *LSB 893 vs 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

EPISTLE *Romans 8:12–17 ESV*

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 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!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GRADUAL AND VERSE *Romans 11:33, 36; Isaiah 40:8*

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Pastor: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades,

People: but the word of our God will stand forever.
Alleluia.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23 ESV*

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 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, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain,

some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.”

“Hear then the parable of the sower: 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 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. 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. 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.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

PRAYER REQUESTS & ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please pass your prayer requests and yellow attendance cards to the individual sitting nearest the aisle and the ushers will pick them up during the singing of the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast” *LSB 577*

**Almighty God Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound**

**Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love**

**Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy
Bet let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy**

**So when the precious seed is sown
Life giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know**

++ SERMON ++

Introduction: “From the Hand of the Sower Sowing”

Pastor: From the hand of the sower sowing, Good seed is strewn about; Some seed drops by the roadside, There eaten before it can sprout. Hear now the parable's message: God's Word is sown today; Guard well that truth, or Satan Will come and snatch it away.

From the hand of the sower sowing, Good seed is freely thrown; Some seed sprouts with a flourish, But withers before it is grown. Hear now the parable's message: God's Word is sown today; Root deep in Christ, or troubles Could quickly lead you astray.

From the hand of the sower sowing, Good seed is scattered wide; Some seed grows among thistles, Is choked there until it has died. Hear now the parable's message: God's Word is sown today; Pull weeds of wealth and worry, Keep watch, and constantly pray.

From the hand of the sower sowing, Good seed is sown in fields; Some seed falls on good soil, It grows and abundantly yields. Hear now the parable's message: God's Word is wholesome seed; Comes to our hearts producing The faith and life that we need.

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(Please stand)

NICENE CREED

People: 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.

(Please be seated or kneel as you are able, for the prayers of the church)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray.

We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord. All the earth worships You, our Creator and Redeemer. By Your mighty Word, all things live and move and have their being. We praise You for Your creation. But with even greater praise, we give thanks for Your re-creating Word by which You have conquered sin and death, restoring earth's beauty and eternal life to all who believe. Cause Your Word to be received and

believed by all people, giving everyone Your new life through faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For the glorious company of the apostles, the fellowship of the prophets, and the evangelists of Your Gospel, we give You thanks. Give conviction and strength to all today whom You have called and ordained to proclaim Your Word to this generation, and bring forth the fruits of faith and love in all those renewed by Your Word and Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God bless our native land with freedom and wisdom to acknowledge Your Holy Word as the only sure foundation of governance in line with Your grace, wisdom, and will. Raise up servant leaders to guard, guide, and protect all citizens of our country in the way of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As You promise Your own healing peace and comfort for Your people, so surround all who suffer any need, sickness, or adversity. Grant that their faith never fail and their prayers never cease. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As the washing of water with Your Word in Holy Baptism raises us to new life now by faith, so give the confidence of the resurrection to eternal life to all. We give thanks for all who have departed in faith and now rest from their labors. Keep us in the wisdom and confidence of faith in the Word of our Lord Jesus who said, “everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die” (John 11:26). Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please be seated as the offering is being received, and as we sing the offering hymn)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” *LSB 781 vs 2 - 4*

**May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly as Thou blessest us
To Thee our first-fruits give**

**Oh hearts are bruised and dead
And homes are bare and cold
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled
Are straying from the fold**

**To comfort and to bless
To find a balm for woe
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angels' work below**

SACRAMENT

PREFACE 2 *Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: (spoken) **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: (spoken) **It is right to give Him thanks and
praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom You anointed to proclaim good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, recover of sight for the blind, and to set the oppressed free. By His preaching and teaching, and by the blood of His death and His glorious resurrection, He has fulfilled Your will. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS *(sing) LSB 195*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory**

Hosanna Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: 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 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 blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: (spoken) **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: (spoken) Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world have mercy upon us

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“On What Has Now Been Sown” *LSB 921*

**On what has now been sown
Thy blessing Lord bestow
The pow’r is Thine alone
To make it sprout and grow
Do Thou in grace the harvest raise
And Thou alone shalt have the praise**

**To Thee our wants are known
 From Thee are all our pow'rs
 Accept what is Thine own
 And pardon what is ours
 Our praises Lord and prayers receive
 And to Thy Word a blessing give**

**O grant that each of us
 Now met before Thee here
 May meet together thus
 When Thou and Thine appear
 And follow Thee to heav'n our home
 E'en so amen Lord Jesus come**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) TLH p. 29-30

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
 depart in peace according to Thy word,
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast prepared before the face
 of all people, a light to lighten the
 Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now,
 and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN

“Almighty Father, Bless the Word” LSB 923

Almighty Father bless the Word

Which through Your grace we now have heard

Oh may the precious seed take root

Spring up and bear abundant fruit

We praise You for the means of grace

As homeward now our steps we trace

Grant Lord that we who worshiped here

May all at last in heav'n appear

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavn'ly host
 Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor
 Marie Brown, Organist
 Glenn Cairns, Elder & Reader
 Bill Switter, Dave Brown & Kathy King, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BINGO!

July 19th

Quilting

Every Thursday from 10am to 2pm

Family Fun Day!

Sunday August 6th right after service
 There will be a BBQ, yard games, singing, food &
 fellowship

Please bring a dish to pass.

Meat & Drink will be provided

There will also be prizes!

We are asking for the youth to help with games &

Men to help with BBQ.

DON'T forget to bring your Family & Friends!

Attendance

Sunday July 9th

9:30 am 31

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact Nancy Dajos at 313-982-7417. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Birthdays

Melvin Kimbrough – July 18th

Lori Wilson – July 21st

For the Shut-Ins

Judy Ohannasian, at home

Dorothy MacTavish, at home

Camell Faulk, at home

Phyllis Witte, at rehab

Melvin Kimbrough, at home

Lynn Mayfield, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

The birth of Peyton Riley Trout, June 14, to Alex and Jayme.

Tammy Tortenesi, Sophia's Mother, for relief from severe back pain

Family of Lota VanZandt, friend of Glenn Cairns, who was called to her eternal home

Melvin Kimbrough, at home, continue to pray for patience waiting for our Lord's strengthening powers

Trevor Ashley, friend of Paul Utica, dr's found bladder cancer

Jackie Fults, Preschool Director, recovering from surgery

Brad Hackney, Pam Benford's Friend, Pulmonary Fibrosis & other health issues.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday July 16	9:30 am - Worship w/ HC
Wednesday July 19	BINGO 6pm to 8pm
Thursday July 20	10am Quilting
Friday July 21	Office Closed
Sunday July 23	9:30 am - Worship w/ HC



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