

Sunday, July 12 2026 Bulletin Insert: 7th Sunday after Pentecost

We lift up in prayer:

Janet Hillstrom, Roger & Bev Valentine, Gloria Schultz, Ron Lunz, Marnie Osmond, Peggy Morrison, Michael "Mic" Mickelson, Phyllis Jacobson, Joyce Paulson; Judy Wohlin, for health concerns; Laurie Brothen, mother of Joy White, for health and healing; The family & loved ones of Keith Espelien on his death

Altar Flowers given by:

Katherine & Paul Ragan in honor of their 4th wedding anniversary!!

GATHERING SONG

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty, ELW 533

1 Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God 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, oh, 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

1st READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

PSALM (read responsively): Psalm 65:9-13

⁹ You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

¹⁰ **You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

¹² **The pastures of the wilderness overflow; the hills gird themselves with joy;**

¹³ the meadows clothe themselves with flocks; the valleys deck themselves with grain; they shout and sing together for joy.

2nd READING: Romans 8:1-11

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

For the Fruit of All Creation, ELW 679

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For these 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.

SENDING SONG

Sent Forth by God's Blessing, ELW 547

1 Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living, the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

BLOOD DRIVE AT FAITH – MONDAY, JULY 13, 12:00-6:00pm

To sign up, go to www.redcross.org – GIVE BLOOD tab – "Find a Blood Drive", enter the zip code 56288. If you scroll down the list, you'll find Faith Church, Spicer and can see the available times.

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT WOOD-FIRED WEDNESDAY: THIS WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

The order window is open at NOON TODAY to place an online pizza order for this upcoming Wednesday, July 15. Order ahead of time online (faithspicer.org), or simply show up the evening of Wednesday, July 15 and order in person (~15 minute wait time). Little Crow Jr. Golf & Water's Edge Ministries are hosting the pizza this week!

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Do you have drawers full of photos and family papers? There's a story waiting to be told – yours.

Learn simple ways to organize your family history and turn it into something meaningful to share. This group meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 10:00am in Room 120 of Faith Commons.

Upcoming Date: Tuesday, July 14 at 10:00am.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION:

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty", text: Benjamin Schmolck; tr. Catherine Winkworth, music: Joachim Neander

"For the Fruit of All Creation", text: Fred Pratt Green, music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, arr. © Oxford University Press

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing", text: Omer Westendorf, music: Welsh folk tune, text © 1964 World Library Publications

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