

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Lord God, use our lives to touch the world with your love. Stir us by your spirit, to be neighbor to those in need, serving them with willing hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13**

<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>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.

### **Psalm: Psalm 65:1-13**

<sup>1</sup>Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,

**<sup>2</sup>O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.**

<sup>3</sup>When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

**<sup>4</sup>Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.**

<sup>5</sup>By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

**<sup>6</sup>By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.**

<sup>7</sup>You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

**<sup>8</sup>Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.**

<sup>9</sup>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.

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

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

**<sup>12</sup>The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,**

<sup>13</sup>the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

### **Second Reading: Romans 8:12-17**

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For

you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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

<sup>13</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 the 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>Let anyone with ears listen!” <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 the world 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.”

**THIS WEEK AT BETHANY**

<b>Today: July 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday: July 23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>First Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
9:30-Worship w/Communion & New Members	9:30-Worship
10:30-Coffee Fellowship	10:30-Coffee Fellowship
<b>Monday: July 17<sup>th</sup></b>	
6:30-Discipleship Class	
<b>Tuesday: June 18<sup>th</sup></b>	
8:30-Prayer Group	
9:30-Tuesday Coffee @ BLC	
<b>Thursday: July 20</b>	
2:00-Circle Group @BLC	

**Prayer Concerns:** Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, Iowa storm victims, those battling COVID-19, Don & Marjean Ehlers, Lisa Anderson, Rodolfo Rezarin, Betty Thorsvig, Ely Kleszczelski, Colleen Phillips, Neil Bailey, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Christine Gordon, Dorothy Sandvig, Helen Dodge, Pastor James Puotyual, Carol Schmidt, Gloria Bell, Cenon Zarzoso, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

Lector: Kelly Gordon  
 Ushers: July 16<sup>th</sup> -Volunteers  
 July 23<sup>rd</sup> -Jean Swanson & Tammy Oxenreider  
 Acolytes: Bethany Youth

**Weekly Budget Needs: \$2800.00**  
 Faith Promise \$ 720.00                      Worship 33

**Birthdays:** July 17, Pat Alexander, Eloise Armstrong;  
 19-Luke Hersom; 21-Brayden Hudson  
**Anniversary:**

\*Please note that the blue CH (Celebration Hymnal) is located under the pew in front of you.

**Altar Flowers:**

*An asterisk (\*) indicates when to stand (for those who are able)*

**ORDER OF THE SERVICE**

PRELUDE/ RINGING OF THE BELL  
 WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP OF PRAYER & MEDITATION**

\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS P.56  
 \*HYMN *Now Thank We All Our God* **LBW533**  
 \*GREETING P.57  
 \*KYRIE P.57  
 \*HYMN OF PRAISE P.60  
 \*PRAYER OF THE DAY (bulletin-in unison)

**MEDITATION ON GOD’S WORD**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13**  
**PSALM: Psalm 65:1-13** (bulletin – responsively)  
**SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17**  
 \*ALLELUIA VERSE P.62  
 \***THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**  
 \*GOSPEL RESPONSES P.63  
 CHILDREN’S SERMON-  
 SERMON **Pastor David Klappenbach**  
 HYMN *We Plow the Fields and Scatter* **LBW 362**  
**Reception into Membership** P. 198  
 \*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH  
     **Leader:** “...Lord, in your mercy.”  
     **Response:** “hear our prayer.”  
 \*THE PEACE

**OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD**

OFFERING P.66  
 \*OFFERTORY HYMN *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* **LBW 200**  
 \*OFFERTORY PRAYER P.67  
 \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING P.67  
 \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION P.69  
 \*THE LORD’S PRAYER P.71  
 \*LAMB OF GOD P.72  
 DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION  
 \*BLESSING P.72  
 \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE P.72

**\*BENEDICTION**

P.76  
 \*HYMN *This is My Fathers World* **LBW 554**  
 \*DISMISSAL



**July 16, 2023**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**WORSHIP, LOVE, ACCEPT  
 TOGETHER IN CHRIST’S NAME**

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To our visitors! Welcome to our Sunday Service. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the visitor card in front of you. Please come again!

*Welcome to our Communion Sunday Service. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We are happy to have you sharing in our worship service and ask for the opportunity to meet you. We invite you to complete the Communion/Visitor card in front of you. Please come again!*