

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12, 2026

PRELUDE

Becky Retherford

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
source of hope for every people, rest for the weary,
glory and peace to the ends of the earth. **Amen.**

Let us bring every burden to God. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

God of all mercy,
**we have sinned against you,
our neighbors, and your creation.
Within ourselves and our communities,
our desire to do what is good
is at war with the evil that dwells in us.
We lament the evil that holds us captive.
We repent of the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Rescue us, forgive us, and restore us
for lives of compassion and courage
through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

All-merciful, Almighty God
forgive you all your sins
through the grace of ☩ Jesus Christ,
and by the Spirit's power
strengthen you in doing what is good.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "I Danced in the Morning"

- 1) I danced in the morning when the world was begun
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Chorus: **Dance, then, wherever you may be
I am the Lord of the Dance, said He
and I'll lead you all wherever you may be
And I'll lead you all in the dance said He**

- 2) I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee
But they would not dance, and they wouldn't follow me
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John
They came with me and the dance went on **To Chorus**
- 3) I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame
The holy people said it was a shame
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high
And they left me there on a cross to die **To Chorus**
- 4) I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone
But I am the dance and I still go on **To Chorus**
- 5) They cut me down and I leapt up high
I am the life that'll never, never die
I'll live in you if you'll live in me
I am the Lord of the Dance said He **To Chorus**

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.**

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 65

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.
To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.

**Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.**

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.

**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.**

You make firm the mountains by your power;
 you are girded about with might.

**You still the roaring of the seas,
 the roaring of their waves,
 and the clamor of the peoples.**

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.**

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.**

You drench the furrows and smooth out
 the ridges;
 with heavy rain you soften the ground
 and bless its increase.

**You crown the year with your goodness,
 and your paths overflow with plenty.**

May the fields of the wilderness be rich
 for grazing,
 and the hills be clothed with joy.

**May the meadows cover themselves
 with flocks, and the valleys cloak
 themselves with grain;
 let them shout for joy and sing.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Great Spirit, **you have lit upon each of us a flame to serve you in all that we do. Ignite your flame, and help us to burn brightly for you. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Word

BIBLE READING Isaiah 55:10-13

BIBLE READING Romans 8:1-11

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #721 "Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil"

Goodness is stronger than evil;
 love is stronger than hate;
 light is stronger than darkness;
 life is stronger than death;
 vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours,
 through God who loves us.
 Vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours,
 through God who loves us.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

SERMON "The Wonder of the Spirit of the Risen Christ" Pastor Julie Brenden

HYMN OF DAY ELW #453 "Baptized and Set Free"

- 1 We are people created, chosen by God.
 Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love.
 Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door
 to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.
- 2 We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed.
 Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed.
 For whatever the need, God is greater indeed:
 endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.
- 3 We are nourished by water, all living things,
 and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings.
 As we journey toward home, may your presence be known:
 precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.

- 4 Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song.
All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong.
Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be
one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

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

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all of creation.

Responses: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares
upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(You are welcome to share the peace with others.)

OFFERING & HYMN ELW #579 "For the Fruit Of All Creation"

- 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.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, **for waves of grain and harvesters, fruitful vines and winepresses, for our labor and our rest, for the gifts of your hand in this land. Transform us and what we offer into the banquet of your compassion, serving your love without limits through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The Author of life, the Word of salvation,
the Breath of new birth, ☩ one God,
bless you and equip you for living and serving,
today and every day. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ELW #551 “The Spirit Sends Us Forth To Serve”

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.
- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.
- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Seek liberty and justice for all.
Thanks be to God.