

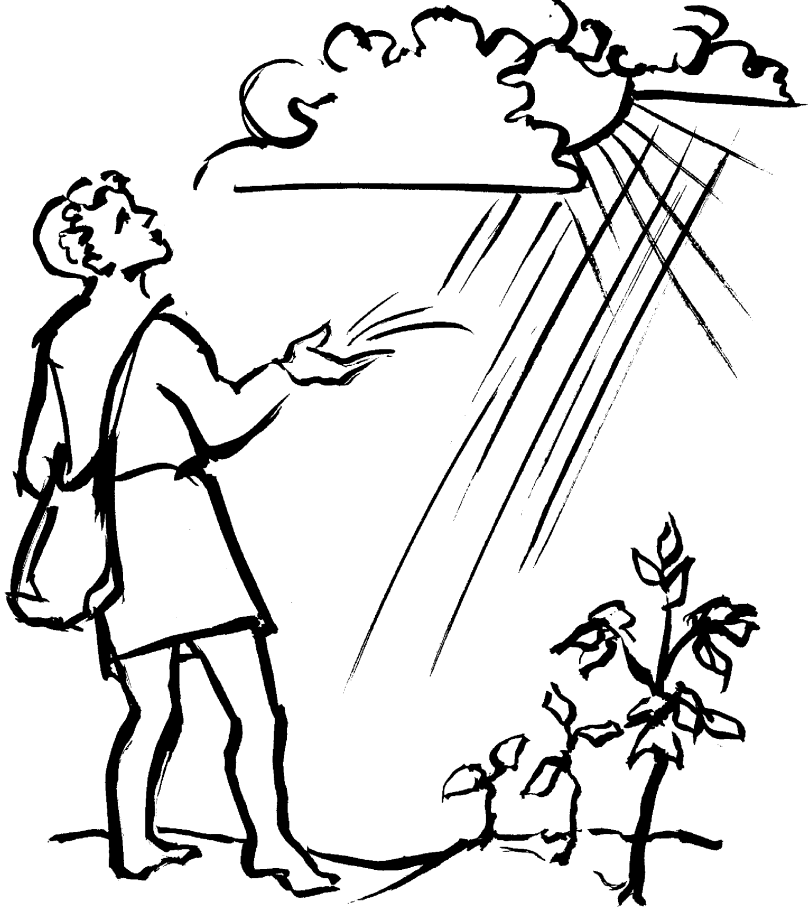


# Lutheran Church of Hope

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**JULY 12, 2026**  
**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Drawn together by God, Celebrating Grace, Serving All



## WELCOME

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Compassionate God,  
we confess to you all our sins.  
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.  
In your mercy, call us back to you.  
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.  
Restore us to dwell in your peace.  
In Christ's name we pray,  
Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

**Amen.**

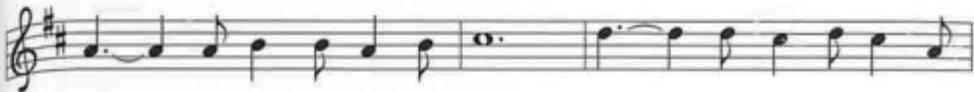
## God the Sculptor of the Mountains



1 God the sculp-tor of the moun-tains,      God the mill-er of the  
 2 God the nui-sance to the Pha-raoh,      God the cleav-er of the  
 3 God the dress-er of the vine-yard,      God the plant-er of the  
 4 God the un-expect-ed in-fant,      God the calm, de-ter-mined



sand,      God the jewel-er of the heav-ens,  
 sea,      God the pil-lar in the dark-ness,  
 wheat,      God the reap-er of the har-vest,  
 youth,      God the ta-ble-turn-ing proph-et,



God the pot-ter of the land:      you are womb of all cre-  
 God the bea-con of the free:      you are fount of all de-  
 God the source of all we eat:      you are host at ev-'ry  
 God the re-sur-rect-ed truth:      you are pres-ent ev-'ry



a-tion,      we are form-less; shape us now.  
 liv-'rance,      we are sight-less; lead us now.  
 ta-ble,      we are hun-gry; feed us now.  
 mo-ment,      we are search-ing; meet us now.

Text: John Thornburg, b. 1954  
 Music: Amanda Husberg, b. 1940

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.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## PSALM 65:1-13

<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.**

<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.**

<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.**

## GOSPEL — Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

<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 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.”

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Liz**

# Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

## Shout to the Lord



My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.

My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;

let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise

to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the

sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;

for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.

Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP),  
 c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*The offerings received by this congregation support this church and local ministries in Anchorage. Checks can be made out to "Lutheran Church of Hope." You may also use the iPad at the entrance to the sanctuary to make a secure donation via Square or scan the QR code in the insert to donate via Tithe.ly.*

## OFFERTORY

# We Are an Offering

ELW 692

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God, mighty and merciful,  
your people praise you, saying:  
Your mercy endures forever.  
**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,  
granting them life and calling them to flourish,  
setting the sign of your bow in the clouds,  
the colors of your love and faithfulness.  
Your mercy endures forever.  
**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old,  
blessing them with family outnumbering the stars  
and calling them to be a blessing to others,  
showing them steadfast love in every generation  
and calling them to be a light to the nations.  
Your mercy endures forever.  
**Your mercy endures forever.**

By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us into your  
living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup  
we remember his life laid down and lifted up  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us  
and these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless us to be a blessing.  
Make us a sign of your faithfulness.  
Send us to tend and cherish the earth  
and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus,  
in your Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

# INVITATION TO COMMUNION

## COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 528

### Come and Fill Our Hearts *Confitemini Domino*

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system contains the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the last two lines. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The accompaniment is a simple harmonic accompaniment using chords and single notes.

*Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.*  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

*Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!*  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community

Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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# Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain

Musical notation for the Refrain, consisting of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody features a series of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure. The lyrics are: "Lead me, guide me, a-long the way, For if you lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me."

Verses

Musical notation for the Verses, consisting of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats, and a 3/4 time signature. The melody features a series of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure. The lyrics are: "1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to  
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness, Be my  
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting blind with - out thy Light to see, Lord, just al - ways  
D.C.  
dark-ness thy face to see, Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.  
all my trust in thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.  
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me."

Text: Doris M. Akers, b.1922  
Tune: Doris M. Akers, b.1922, harm. by Richard Smallwood  
© 1953, Doris M. Akers. All rights administered by Unichappell Music, Inc.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus taught us:

**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.**

**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.**

**Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.**

**Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.**

**Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you  
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.**

## BENEDICTION

Go, blessed and little ones,  
travel the good road with Jesus.

Scatter the good news.

Rejoice and be glad.

Almighty God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
 the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
 our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
 em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
 lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
 Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
 give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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## DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
 Thanks be to God.

# WELCOME

Name:

---

Pronouns:

---

Phone Number:

---

Email:

---

Address:

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I am a...

- First Time Visitor
- Regular Visitor
- Church Member
- In Need of Prayer

I would like to...

- receive the Weekly News email
- receive the monthly Newsletter
- learn how to get involved
- receive a call from Pastor Liz

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## PRAYER REQUEST

Please place this tab in the offering plate.

## CALENDAR

*Lutheran Church of Hope events are in **bold***

### SUNDAY, JULY 12

- 8:30 AM—Bible Study**
- 10 AM—Worship with Holy Communion**
- 2 PM—Christian Worship Center

### MONDAY, JULY 13 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 5:30 PM—Sit Stay Play AK
- 6:30 PM— Private Meeting

### TUESDAY, JULY 14 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 3:30 PM—Mobile Food Pantry
- 7 PM—Plus 24 AA
- 7 PM—Shoulder to Shoulder Al Anon

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 15 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 5:30 PM—Garden Party**

### THURSDAY, JULY 16 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 6:30 PM— There Is A Solution OA

### FRIDAY, JULY 17

### SATURDAY, JULY 18

- 12 PM—United Church of God

### SUNDAY, JULY 19

- 8:30 AM—Bible Study**
- 10 AM—Worship with Holy Communion**
- 2 PM—Christian Worship Center

I would like a call  
from Pastor Liz  
July 12, 2026