

That your spirit will dwell with them according to your will. That they will grow in the knowledge of you and know that they are dearly loved by you. I pray that you will protect them from deception by the evil one and all his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning what direction you have in mind for them. I also pray for children throughout the world that you would keep them in your care. In Jesus name I pray. Amen

Amen



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton WI
9:00 AM
July 12, 2026
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Inviting People to Journey with Christ's
Family In Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

**Indicates people should stand as they are able.*
Welcome and Announcements

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Hymn

“Jesus, We Are Gathered”

ELW#529 x2

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

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.

Hymn "Open Now the Gates of Beauty"

ELW #524

PRAYER FOR THE CHILDREN

Dear Lord Jesus;

We lift to you our children and grandchildren. We ask that your spirit

Hymn Sing– July 26

We have placed hymn request sheets in the pews. Do you have a favorite hymn you would like to sing next week? Please complete and put your request on the piano as you leave today. The hymn DOES NOT need to be in the Lutheran hymnal.

Vacation Bible School

We will hold VBS on Monday July 27 through Thursday July 30. The times are 5:30—8:00 pm. We are using the ELCA World Hunger VBS program, "At the Table". Children 4 years old through those who have completed 7th grade are welcome to attend. We invite all children in our community to attend. Feel free to extend an invitation to your friends and neighbors children.

We will be placing sign-up sheets for snacks next Sunday. We are also in need of helpers, so let Justin know if you would be available to help.

Carillon

The carillon needed a repair but is now back and will play at Noon and 6:00 pm provided Nalani remembers to program it. If you would like to learn and help with the programming, let her know.

Information Update

We seem to be out of date in our membership records, particularly with telephone numbers. We've placed forms for completion in the hymn book rack. Please list ALL phones in your household and the primary user of each. Drop it on the piano after completion. Thanks.

Rally Day

Remember when we had a picnic and played games in the park when summer break was over and Sunday school was back in session each year? Well, we're going to that on September 13 this year. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Those Serving Today

Ministers: All God’s People; Synod Authorized Minister: Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Readers: Lori Arndt; Altar: Dixie & Leonard Arndt: Communion Servers; Volunteers

Our Prayers

Linda, Kristy Gwin Solovey, Marilyn O’Rourke, Larry Arndt, Nick Evans, Collin Niedfeldt, Mark Drews, Carol Lydon Fronk, Brian, Ben Bender, Darlene Diekrager, Jack Arndt, Diane Hornburger, Mike Escutia, Daniel Paulson, Marie Jacobson, Lenora Martin, Jenny Simpson Erickson, Linda Martin, Andy Martin, John Arzt

CALENDAR

Today	Worship	9:00 am
	Anniversary Committee	10:00 am
Sun., July 19	Worship	9:00 am
	Noisy Offering	
	Birthday & Anniversary Reception	
	Council Meeting	10:00 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion

We are changing to gluten free wafers for communion.

**St. Joseph Kendall PCCW Fundraiser
July 26, 11:30am—1:00 pm**

The ladies are raising money for church projects in Kendall. They were so impressed with Rooster Andy’s Catering but decided folks might be tired of chicken. So their meal will consist of pulled pork, potato salad, baked beans and a roll. Per plate cost is \$13.00. I (Nalani) have tickets if you are interested. They have been supportive of our fundraisers, I hope we can return the favor.

**will dwell with them according to your will, that they will grow in the knowledge of you and know they are dearly loved by you. We pray for your protection from deception by the evil one and his darts that would lead them astray. May they do well in school, learning and discerning your direction for them. We also pray for all children throughout the world that you will keep them in your loving care. In Jesus name we pray.
Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

God’s word to Israel’s exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

A reading from Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ 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,
¹¹ 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.

¹² 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.
¹³ 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 65:9-13

⁹ 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.
¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**
¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**
¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak
themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from

**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

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!
Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ’s table.

Distribution

Prayer after Communion

SENDING God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world.
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Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
☩ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

Hymn	“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”	ELW #547
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Dismissal

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

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (God of grace, **(hear our prayer.)**)

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Offering Hymn

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

1. We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.
2. And we believe thy word,
though dim our faith may be:
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
we do it unto thee.

Prayer after Offering

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Words of Institution

LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life

A reading from Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 205

GOSPEL READING

In Matthew’s gospel, both Jesus and his disciples “sow the seed” of God’s word by proclaiming the good news that “the kingdom of heaven is near.” Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

The holy gospel according Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ 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. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ 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. ²² 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. ²³ 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.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Karen Sparling
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn **“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”** **ELW #512**

***APOSTLE’S 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.**