



*Nurturing a Living Faith
with Open Hearts
and Serving Hands*

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Introduction to the Day

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.

**7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026
8:30 a.m.**



PRELUDE

WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

HS pg. 2

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection.

Most merciful God,
have mercy on us.

We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

OPENING SONG

"We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

ELW #681

GREETING

HS pg. 2

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.

KYRIE

HS pg. 3

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Now the Feast"

HS pg. 4

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

***Welcome to
Worship at Trinity
Lutheran***

Whether this is your first time worshipping with us, or if you regularly attend, we are very glad that you are with us! Today, we gather to worship God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The church is not a building – it is you, the people. If you look around what you will see are imperfect people. Some with smiles, some with broken hearts, some with secrets they are ashamed to share... and yet all of us together are the "church."

We are thankful you are here. Through God's Holy Spirit we pray you hear a word of grace and hope today.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 55:10-13

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.

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 65:1-13

(Please read responsively).

¹ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.
² **To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**
³ Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.
⁴ **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.**
⁵ 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.
⁶ **You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**
⁷ You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
⁸ **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.**
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: ROMANS 8:1-11

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

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.

My thoughts on the scripture
and message

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

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

ELW #512

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

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 to Matthew, chapter 13, beginning with verse 1. **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.**

CHILDREN'S TIME/SERMON

Pastor Mark Narum

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Trees of the Field”
CCLI #20546

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 THE PEOPLE

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

ELW #752

Please pray for Amy, Rod, Melissa, Hal, Ken, Betty, Jan, Dwight, Donna, Carol, Dennis & Mark.

OFFERING/OFFERING MUSIC

OFFERING RESPONSE

“Doxology”

ELW #884

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

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

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

RADIO BROADCAST/LIVE STREAM is in memory of Beata Jasmann.

CARAMEL ROLLS - Our first fundraiser for the Out of Darkness Walk will be on Sunday, July 26th. We will be selling caramel rolls between services. You can just come that day and enjoy a caramel roll or several. There are also order forms available in the narthex to pre-order 4-packs. The cost is a freewill donation.

OUT OF DARKNESS WALK - Our Mental Health and Substance Abuse Task Force will be sponsoring a team for the Out of Darkness Walk again this year. The walk is on Sunday, September 13th, at the Capitol Grounds. The Out of Darkness Walk raises funds and awareness for suicide prevention. Please join our team! All are welcome! Follow this link for more information on how to join us: <https://afspwalks.donordrive.com/teams/393805>. You can also make an online donation at this page as well.

250TH CELEBRATION - From our silent auction items and freewill offering, we raised \$2,149 to be donated to the Western ND Honor Flight. Thank you for your generosity!

ONLINE GIVING - Giving has never been easier! Open your camera on your phone and scan the QR code. It will take you right to Trinity's online giving site. You can choose to give via credit card or bank account. Try it out today!



SCAN ME



Church School

- Offered Sundays & Wednesdays
- Age 3 through Grade 5
- No Cost
- Starts September 9 & 13

Register at trinitybismarck.com

Confirmation

- Wednesdays at 6:40 pm
- Grade 6 - 8
- No Cost
- Starts August 26

Register at trinitybismarck.com



Rejoicing Spirits

WORSHIP

Rejoicing Spirits

2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
AT TRINITY LUTHERAN @ 2 PM

This innovative ministry is an inclusive worship service that provides people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (and people who love and support them) with an opportunity to worship and to be themselves while actively participating in an inclusive faith community.

All are welcome

502 N 4th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501

THIS WEEK AT TRINITYSunday 7-12

- 8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 AM - Worship in Community Center
- 2 PM - Rejoicing Spirits Worship in Sanctuary

Tuesday 7-14

- 9 AM - Quilters in Quilters' Room
- 12 PM - Caregiver Lunch & Learn in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday 7-15

- 6 PM - Worship outside at Peace Chapel

Thursday 7-16

- 5 PM - Mental Health Task Force in Conf. Room
- 6:30 PM - Council in Conference Room

Saturday 7-18

- 10 AM - Heat to Hand Cards in Fellowship Hall

Sunday 7-19

- 8:30 AM - Worship in Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM - Bible 101 in Fellowship Hall
- 10:30 AM - Worship in Community Center



Christmas in July

Wednesday, July 29th

Worship @ 6 p.m.
outside at Peace Chapel

Ham Dinner served after
in Fellowship Hall