

7th Sunday after Pentecost  
July 12, 2026



First Lutheran Church  
116 Inner Drive  
Le Sueur, MN 56058  
507-665-2615  
Rev. Samuel Mailleue

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UNITED by Christ, God calls us to LOVE one another  
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

*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.*

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## **GATHERING**

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

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### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OPENING REFLECTION**

### **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.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **OPENING HYMN**

*Sing to the Lord of Harvest* ELW #694  
**(Vs. 1 & 2)**  
Public Domain

### **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.**

### **KYRIE - (Spoken)**

**ELW page 138**

### **CANTICLE**

*Lord, Be Glorified* ELW #744  
**(Vs. 1)**  
CCLI #26368

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray  
**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.**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

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## WORD

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

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### **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.*

<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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **PSALM—Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13**

[ <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.

**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. <sup>7</sup> 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, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> 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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* ELW #172

The Holy Gospel according to the thirteenth chapter of Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**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.*

<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.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

**MESSAGE**

**Rev. Sam Mailleue**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

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

CCLI #806698 & One License #51985

**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**

## **THE PRAYERS**

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

*A brief silence.*

God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit.

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

God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward Isaiah's vision, when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation.

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

God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world especially in areas of war.

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

God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns especially the Le Sueur Food Shelf.

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

God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us.

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

We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith.

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.**

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## OFFERING

*Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

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### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

#### OFFERTORY HYMN

*For the Fruit of All Creation* ELW #679

(Vs. 1)

CCLI #2854878

#### OFFERTORY 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.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

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## SENDING

*The God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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### BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✝ one God,

bless, heal, and hold you

today and always.

**Amen.**

### CLOSING HYMN

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* ELW #545

CCLI #4666521 & Public Domain

### DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

#### **Welcome to First Lutheran Church**

*Whether you are looking for a place of worship  
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you  
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.*



**Acknowledgements:**

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Sharefaith—Membership

Expires 6/2026

Church ArtPro—Account #74057560

Expires 12/15/2027

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## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **July Ministry Focus: Mindfulness**

In the busyness of daily life, it can be easy to move from one task to the next without noticing what is happening within us. Mindfulness invites us to slow down, pay attention, and become aware of God's presence in the midst of ordinary moments. Rooted in faith, mindfulness is not about emptying our minds, but about creating space to notice our thoughts, emotions, bodies, and surroundings with curiosity and grace. The following weekly pauses offer simple practices to help you reconnect with yourself, your neighbors, and the God who walks with you through every season.

**Week 1—Pause of the Week: Move Your Body**

**Week 2—Pause of the Week: Follow the Monkey**

**Week 3—Pause of the Week: Be Grateful in the Midst of Chaos**

**Week 4—Pause of the Week: Learn Your Emotion**

**Following the July Ministry Focus of Mindfulness, a YOGA session will start at 10:15am today.**

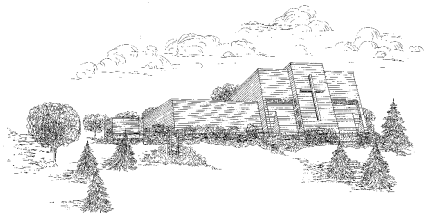
Pr. Sam will be out of the office  
Monday, July 13 through Sunday, July 19.  
If you have a pastoral need, please contact:

**Pastor Heath Queen**  
**(St. Paul/Le Center)**  
**740-412-1559**

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Amount Needed
7-5-26	\$4,765	\$4,523
YTD	\$128,723	\$126,642







## Weekly Schedule

Sunday, July 12	<b>9:00a</b> 10:15a	<b>Worship</b> Yoga
Monday, July 13—Sunday, July 19—Pastor Sam vacation		
Monday, July 13	10:00a 5:00p	Le Sueur Food Shelf Meeting @ First Social Ministry Team Meeting @ Paddlefish
Sunday, July 19	<b>9:00a</b>	<b>Contemporary Worship</b> <b>Pastor Nancy Dreier</b> <b>and the SonRise Band</b>

### Worship Assistants

#### July 12, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Reece St. Pierre
Reader:	Edrie Barton
Usher:	Steve Olson
Greeters:	Gene & Diana
Council Member:	Vic Pengilly
Fellowship:	
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Joanne Graff Dave Johnson
Altar Guild:	Rachel Wagner Edrie Barton

#### July 19, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Vance Vanden Einde
Reader:	Bonnie Keech
Usher:	John Miller
Greeters:	Bonnie Keech
Council Member:	
Communion Asst.:	Bonnie Keech Sue Michaelis
Fellowship:	Jim & Edrie Barton
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Bob Patrias Dave Johnson
Altar Guild:	Rachel Wagner Edrie Barton