



**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
408 9TH STREET NW  
MANDAN, ND 58554**

# Building Faith and Transforming Lives in Christ

**July 12, 2026**

**9:30 A.M.**

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.**

**GATHERING HYMN** *"For the Fruit of All Creation" ELW #679 or Page 8*

## **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: 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**

## **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.

The Word of the Lord.

**RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13**

*Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11)*

[ <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 over-flow 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.

## **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.*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.**



The Holy Gospel according to 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.”**

**SERMON** *Pastor Phil*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil” ELW #512 or Page 9*

**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 CHURCH

Leader: "God of grace,"

Congregation: "hear our prayer."

### Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system has the lyrics: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;". The second system has the lyrics: "Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace." The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and block chords in the left hand.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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## PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## OFFERING

*Thank you for your financial offerings to First Lutheran. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ through our life together here in this congregation and through our loving service to our neighbors beyond our walls. We now have resumed the traditional offering practice of "passing the plates." For those who contribute to First Lutheran's ministry in ways other than weekly in-church offerings and would still like to be included in the in-worship gathering of the offering, laminated "Offering Cards" are now included in the pew racks for you to place in the offering plates.*

**OFFERTORY**

*“We Are an Offering”*

*ELW #692 or Page 10*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE 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.**

**MEAL**

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

**PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING HYMN**

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

*ELW #547 or Page 11*

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

## For the Fruit of All Creation

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
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 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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# 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

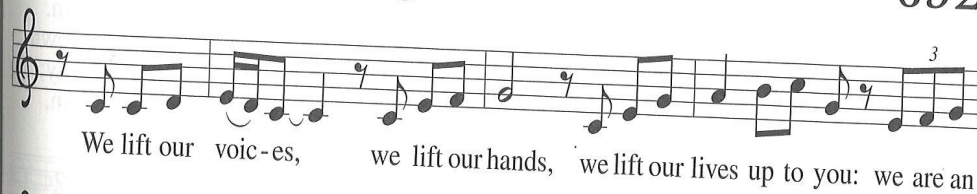
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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

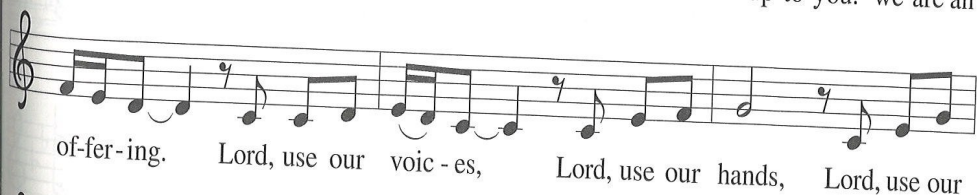
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# We Are an Offering

692



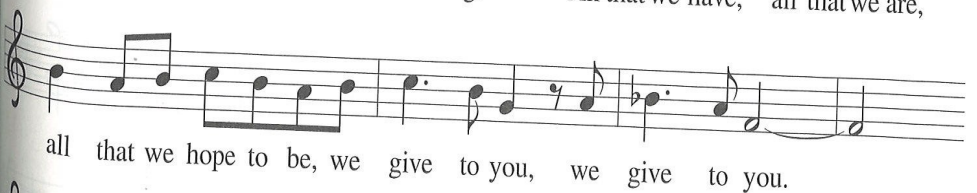
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an



of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our



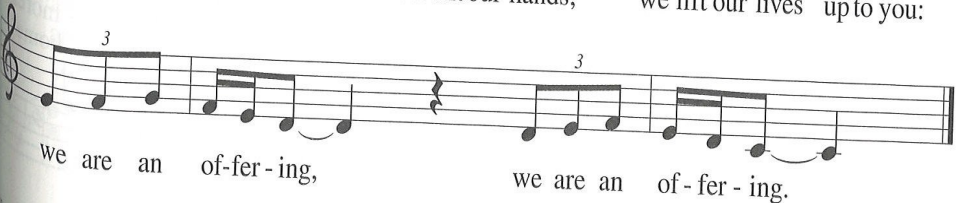
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,



all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.



We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:



we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Lyrics: Dwight Liles, b. 1957  
Music: Dwight Liles  
Words and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING  
PM

## Sent Forth by God's Blessing

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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**Attendance last Week: Sunday 9:30 - 75**  
**Wednesday 6:00 - 26**

**ON-GOING PRAYER CONCERNS:**

*Noel Albrecht, Brad Schmidt, Joan Hanson, Debbie Martineson, Hal Lang, Patrick Lang, Jason Bjorgen, Ken Charvat, Dave Thomas, Joann Meyer, Preston Joyce, Susan Voigt, Toby Kienzle, Pam Weng, Lois Smith, Barb Carl, Jeff MacIver, Brady Mattson, Darin Hinsz, Jerome Bauer, Wendel Mongeon, Brenda Hersch, Jared & Jenn Barnhart, Ray Stenmoen, Connor Hertz, Teresa Seeman, Linda Stastny, Rachael Hankin, Opal Renken, David Jung, Dina Walker, Kay Link, Tammy Krein, Terry Tanaka, Wanda House, Tom Burau, Judy Walters, Monte Olmsted, Pat Kincaid, Victor Saeman, Lualice Stockert, Katy Anseth, Sarah Weishaar, Anna Anderson, Brenna Blankenship, Ted (Theodore) Delfs, Allen Janz, Justin Hankin, Judy Anderson, Rori Messer, Jayar Kindsvogel, Kristen Rasmussen, Jerry Iverson, Jason Klipfel, Lois Helmer, Pius Johner, Cori Musolf, Stan Hepper, Eunice Wolf, Adam Walker, Mary Hogan, Corey Palmer, Sandy Hertz, Jacee Huber, Laurie Ronholdt*

**First Lutheran Church will be updating the prayer list periodically. If a name is not listed and you would like it re-listed please call the church office at 663-3594. We will re-list names for prayers.**

**PLEASE KEEP THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SERVICE FOR OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

*Todd Bauer, Alex Dove, Jacob Selzler*

**If you know of anyone who has ties to our congregation and is called to active duty, please contact the church office.**

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Pastor Phil Leer's phone number: 701-341-7784  
(If you need to reach him please give him a call)

**Ushers:**

Dennis & Sandy Baier

**Reader:**

Jeanne House

**Communion Servers:**

Britany Barden

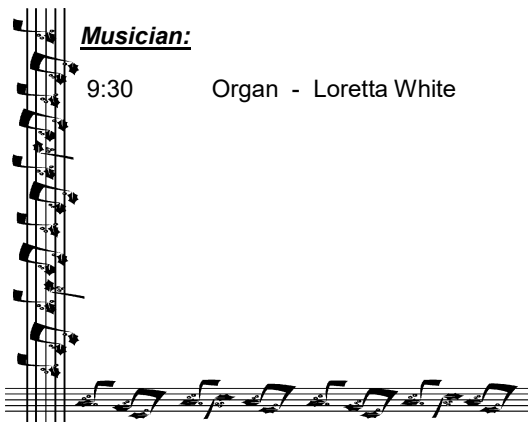
**Communion Set-Up:**

Corby Rachel

**Musician:**

9:30

Organ - Loretta White



## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We are looking for ushers, communion servers, readers & communion set up for all worship services. Since we have gone back to passing the offering plate we need at least 2 ushers for every service. If you could help out please sign your name on the sheets provided, by the bulletins, in the narthex.

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Women of First Luncheon will be held at Bennigans on Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. If you are planning on attending please call the church office at 663-3594 as soon as possible so we can have an accurate count for them. Please bring a food item for the food boxes outside.

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The next **Caregiver Lunch & Learn Series** will be held here on July 16 from Noon to 1:00 p.m. RSVP to Kelly Bengtson at 701-712-2234. They will be focusing on supporting caregivers. Please see the bulletin board for more information.

**Mission of the Month - Lutheran World Relief**  
**Friendship Circle is collecting school supplies for Lutheran  
World Relief**

**Include the following items in each School Kit:**

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½" eraser
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

You may drop off these items in the Narthex in the boxes provided. Thank You.

**DOWNLOAD THE “VANCO MOBILE” APP TODAY!**



**OR TEXT 8449340609 TO DONATE**

**If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office.**

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We have to stay financially strong. The ongoing ministry of our church is dependent on the tithes and offerings of our people. Electronic giving is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can sign up here <https://firstlutheranofmandan.com/>. Simply click on the button on the right hand side that says “Give Online”. If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can drop it off at the church or mail it to 408 9th St NW Mandan, ND 58554. Staying strong in worship, caring ministries, and finances are important as we work to love and serve hurting people during this tumultuous time.

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If you provide your financial offerings to First Lutheran through other ways besides the weekly worship gathering of gifts (e.g.: Vanco, automatic bank withdrawal), you are welcome to place one of the laminated “offering cards” in the pew rack in the offering plate during the Offering.

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**Notes on Holy Communion:**

**Practice:** *We practice Open Communion, which means if you are here, you are welcome at the table of Christ. If you do not take Communion, or you do not take Communion yet, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. We can also bring Communion to you in your pew if you are unable to come forward. Please notify one of the ushers.*

**Procedure:** *You will receive a wafer of bread and a small cup of communion wine (juice and gluten free wafers are also available; please let your server know). Please place the empty cup in the waste basket by the communion assistant as you return to your pew.*

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 9<sup>TH</sup> Street NW, Mandan, ND Phone: 663-3594

email: [jackie@firstlutheranofmandan.org](mailto:jackie@firstlutheranofmandan.org) [www.firstlutheranofmandan.com](http://www.firstlutheranofmandan.com)

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY 12	7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612 9:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP
MONDAY 13	
TUESDAY 14	9:00 STAFF
WEDNESDAY 15	6:00 WORSHIP
THURSDAY 16	
FRIDAY 17	
SATURDAY 18	
SUNDAY 19	7:00 COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL 12 OR 612 9:30 WORSHIP/LIVE STREAM WORSHIP