The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
St. John Tide
July 11-12, 2026
Divine Service, Setting Four, p. 203

Prelude

Confession and Absolution (*stand*) p. 203

Introit *Bless the Lord, O My Soul* Ps. 103:15–19; antiphon: Ps. 103:8

The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
As for man, his days | are like grass;*
he flourishes like a flower | of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and | it is gone,*
and its place knows | it no more.
But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who | fear him,*
and his righteousness to children's | children,
to those who keep his | covenant*
and remember to do his com- | mandments.
The LORD has established his throne in the | heavens,*
and his kingdom rules | over all.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
The LORD is merciful and | gracious,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

Kyrie and Gloria p. 204

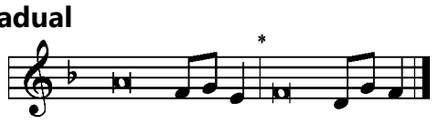
Collect of the Day
Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**. (*sit*)

Old Testament Reading *The Compassion of the Lord* Isaiah 55:10–13

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water 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 shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
12 "For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
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 make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

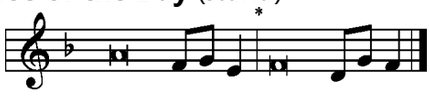
Gradual Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle *Heirs with Christ* Romans 8:12–17

12So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day (*stand*) Isaiah 40:8

C **Alleluia, alleluia!**

A The grass withers, the | flower fades,*
but the word of our God will stand for- | ever.

C **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Holy Gospel *The Parable of the Sower* Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

1That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. 4And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. 7Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

9He who has ears, let him hear."

…18"Hear then the parable of the sower: 19When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed p. 206

Hymn of the Day (*sit*) "Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast" LSB 577

577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

1 **Almighty God, Your Word is cast**
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

2 **Let not the sly satanic foe**
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

3 **Let not the world's deceitful cares**
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.

4 **So when the precious seed is sown,**
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church (*stand*) *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

Offering (*sit*)

Preface (*stand*) p. 208

Sanctus

Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 209

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei p. 210

Distribution (*sit*) "For the Fruits of His Creation" LSB 894

1 **For the fruits of His creation,**
Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation,
Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping,
Thanks be to God.

2 **In the just reward of labor,**
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

3 **For the harvests of the Spirit,**
Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

Post-Communion Hymn (*stand*) LSB 643

1 **Sent forth by God's blessing,**
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.
O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

2 **With praise and thanksgiving**
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benedicamus and Benediction

Closing Hymn "Almighty Father, Bless the Word" LSB 923

923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word

1 **Almighty Father, bless the Word**
Which through Your grace we now have heard.
Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

2 **We praise You for the means of grace**
As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
May all at last in heav'n appear.

3 **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Postlude

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