

**Sunday, July 13, 2008**



Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold,  
some sixty, some thirty. – Matthew 13:8

**Joy Lutheran Church  
9940 South Yale  
Tulsa OK 74137  
918-299-3292  
1joylutheran@sbcglobal.net**

*Celebrating and Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ*

*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.*

**PRELUDE**

**Diana Franchini**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

☩ Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit, the source of life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

☩ **Amen**

☩ Let us confess our sins to God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

*Please take a moment of silence to confess your sins before God.*

☩ God of compassion,

**☩ we confess that we have failed to bear witness that you desire to draw all people to yourself. In our hearts we have thought ill of those who differ from us, and our love of others has not been genuine. We have been caught up in the cares of the world. We have neglected opportunities to welcome the stranger, to feed the hungry, and to mend broken relationships. Forgive our sins, merciful God, that our hearts may burn with love for you and for those in need, and that our lives may witness to your never-failing love for your creation. Amen.**

☩ Brothers and sisters, buried with Christ by baptism into his death, your sins are ✠ forgiven. The death Christ died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also, by the power of the Holy Spirit, are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

☩ **Amen**

## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
 let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.  
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

## GREETING

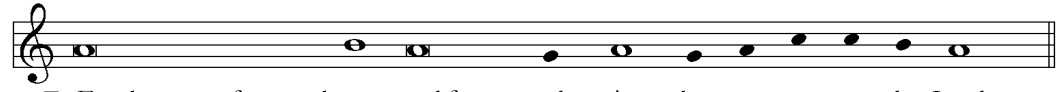
☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☞ **And also with you.**

# KYRIE



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



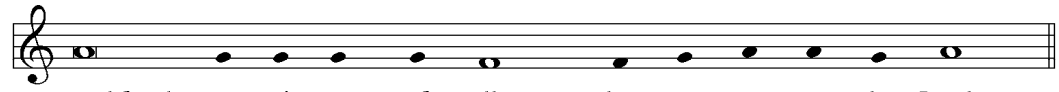
**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



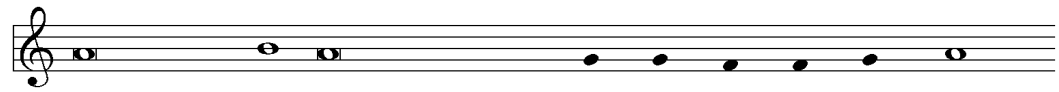
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **G** A - men

# HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

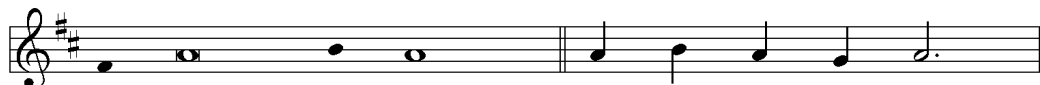


you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray....

**G** **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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign the Registration Forms found at the end of each pew.*

## FIRST LESSON

A reading from *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.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM**

*Psalm 65:9–14*

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it <sup>1</sup>very plenteous;  
the river of God is <sup>1</sup>full of water.

<sup>10</sup>**You pre-<sup>1</sup>pare the grain,  
for so you provide <sup>1</sup>for the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>You drench the furrows and smooth <sup>1</sup>out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and <sup>1</sup>bless its increase.

<sup>12</sup>**You crown the year <sup>1</sup>with your goodness,  
and your paths over-<sup>1</sup>flow with plenty.**

<sup>13</sup>May the fields of the wilderness be <sup>1</sup>rich for grazing,  
and the hills be <sup>1</sup>clothed with joy.

<sup>14</sup>**May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,  
and the valleys cloak them-<sup>1</sup>selves with grain;  
let them shout for <sup>1</sup>joy and sing.**

**SECOND LESSON**

A Reading from *Romans 8:1–11*

*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 slavery. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

There is therefore 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, though the body is dead because of sin, 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 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!**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**VERSE**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL**

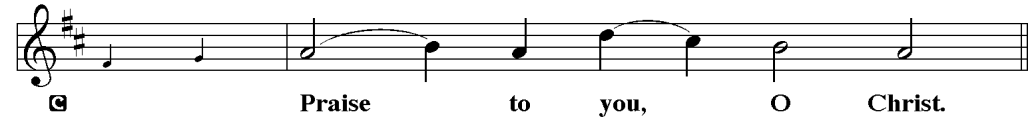
☐ The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

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 the 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>Let anyone with ears listen!" <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 the world 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.



*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

“The Extravagant Sower”

**Pastor Nathan Allen**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 516**

**Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast**



- 1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
- 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
- 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
- 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.  
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.  
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.  
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

**A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A** God of life, send your Word to dwell in our hearts. Give the people of your church compassionate wisdom to carry your Word to those who long for hope and peace. Hear us, O God;

**C** **your mercy is great.**

**A** Send your Spirit to hover over the earth and the seas. Enrich the soil and purify the water that will make the seeds of the earth flourish. Hear us, O God;

**C** **your mercy is great.**

**A** Send your peace to reign over the nations. Orchestrate creative and fervent dialogue between nations that otherwise struggle to coexist. Hear us, O God;

**C** **your mercy is great.**

**A** Send your grace in the midst of despair. Scatter your goodness among those who suffer with pain and illness (*especially these on our prayer list, in our hearts, and on our lips*). Hear us, O God;

**G** **your mercy is great.**

**A** Send your wisdom to a confused world. Ignite the flame of learning and understanding in all people, that the gifts you give are able to develop and be used. Hear us, O God;

**G** **your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** Send the promise of life to those who live in fear of death. Plant in us the hope of the saints who have gone before us in the name of Christ. Hear us, O God;

**G** **your mercy is great.**

**P** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**G** **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**G** **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY



☩ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

☩ God of all creation,

☩ all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.


## PREFACE



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.




**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


## SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

☩ Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

☩ **Amen**

## **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**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

☩ All good gifts come from God. Come with gratitude to this table of grace.

*Please be seated. All baptized Christians who believe Christ is truly present in the sacrament are welcome to receive this meal. The ushers will direct you forward to receive communion. There is both red wine and white grape juice; those not receiving the sacrament are invited forward for a blessing.*

## COMMUNION



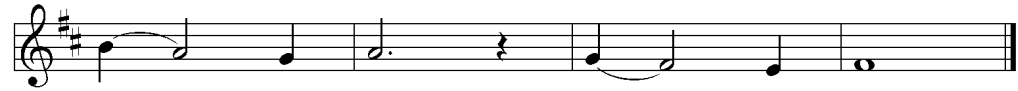
☞ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

*Gift of Finest Wheat*

*Refrain*



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.  
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.  
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997  
 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996  
 OneLicense.net #A-712928

## One Bread, One Body

*Refrain*

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all;

one cup of bless - ing which we bless, and

we, though man - y through-out the earth,

we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,

2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,

3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

*Refrain*  
wom - an or man, no more.

one in the Lord of all.

gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

OneLicense.net #A-712928

*Please stand as you are able.*

☑ May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☑ Amen

## CANTICLE



**☩** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**Ⓐ** Let us pray.

**☩** We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## BLESSING

**Ⓟ** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**☩** Amen

## SENDING HYMN

## Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW 547



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  
 OneLicense.net #A-712928

**DISMISSAL**

- Go in peace. Christ is with you.
- Thanks be to God.**

**Chimes:** (Representing the Father, Son and Holy Spirit)

**The Altar Flowers today, are given to the Glory of God by  
Janice Lovelace in memory of Don Lovelace.**

*Thank you to our Worship Assistants:*

<b>Greeters:</b>	David & Will Ratliff
<b>Ushers:</b>	Clark & Donna Niss
<b>Crucifer:</b>	Emily Ratliff
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Nicholas Grosze
<b>Cantor:</b>	Sandy Gardner
<b>Lector:</b>	Otis Bixler
<b>Comm. Asst:</b>	Jack Connery
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Janice Lovelace & Sonja Yates
<b>Nursery:</b>	Ashley Glass