



## 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 12, 2026

### Advent Lutheran Church

*We extend welcome to people of all races, cultures and colors; to people of all sexual orientations, gender expression and gender identity; to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities; to people of every legal, economic and marital status and to all those the world seeks to separate, divide or isolate. We celebrate your identity as a gift from God. You are welcome to a diverse community united by faith. Receive God's grace given to all regardless of worldly successes or failures. Together we commit ourselves to embrace the continuing work of anti-racism, social and economic justice and environmental care.*

*"Welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15.7*



Advent is a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

# Welcome

**Worship includes everyone!** You are invited to speak the bold-printed words in this bulletin. “ELW” refers to the red hymnal in front of you. “ACS” refers to hymns found in the purple hymnal. During the Sharing of Peace, people generally move around the sanctuary to share signs of Christ’s peace with a hug, a handshake, a peace sign, or saying the words, “Peace be with you.” Participate at your own comfort level.

**Children are welcome in worship!** Sunday School is taking a break this summer, but children are always encouraged to participate in worship. If your little one needs a break, there is space to play and stretch out in the narthex. A TV screen will allow you to see and hear worship while supervising your child. Quiet bags and coloring supplies can be found in the narthex and brought to your pews. During the Family Lesson, children are invited to come forward, with or without a grown-up, for a message created especially for them. Don’t worry — wiggles and noises are expected!

**Fidget toys** are available in bags in most pews. Noise-canceling headphones are also available. Ask an usher if you need a set. Neurodiversity is celebrated here.

**Holy Communion** is intended for everyone. It is an open table. Ushers will guide you. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are available.

**Newcomer today?** Use the QR code on the back page to learn more about Advent.

**Your offering** of financial support, time and talent is welcome and important. The QR link will guide you to online giving. Checks can be written to Advent Lutheran Church.

**Restrooms** are located in the Fellowship Hall next door.

**The blue HERE I AM! card** in your pew rack can be used to request a meeting with the pastor or ask for prayers. Visitors are invited to share their contact information and check the appropriate box to request our e-news. Place the card in the gold plate that will be passed to you during Offering.

## **Thank you for serving today:**

*Ushers:* Irene Bizier and Pam Stubsten

*Lector:* Diane Hastings

*Hospitality:* Vicky Roberts, Bernice and Phil Clements

### **Acknowledgements:**

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— GATHERING —

Prelude

Welcome & Gathering Hymn

*God of the Fertile Fields*

ACS #1063

Invocation & Kyrie

*Refrain*



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.



For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;  
That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;  
For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for friends and fam - i - ly;  
For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;



for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,  
that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

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. **Amen.**

— WORD —

Family Lesson

## First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

<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

### THE SEED THAT FALLS ON GOOD GROUND

Psalm 65

Tony Alonso



1. You visit the earth, give it water; you fill it with riches.  
God's everflowing river brims over to prepare the grain.

2. And thus you provide for the earth: you drench its furrows;  
You level it, soften it with showers; you bless its growth.

3. You crown the year with your bounty. Abundance flows in your pathways;  
In pastures of the desert it flows. The hills are girded with joy.

4. The meadows clothed with flocks. The valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy; yes, they sing, yes, they sing!

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:1-11

<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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*

ELW #512

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

**Hymn of the Day**

*O God, Whose Word Well-Planted*

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## Sharing Christ's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with those around you; a hug, a handshake, a fist bump, peace sign, and/or the words, "Peace be with you."*

## Announcements

— MEAL —

**Offering Song**

*Praise and Thanksgiving*

ELW #689

## 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. Amen.**

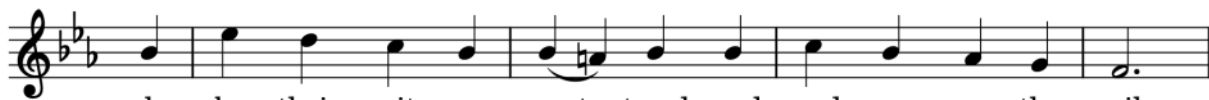
# O God, Whose Word Well-Planted



1. O God, whose word well - plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,  
2. O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,  
3. O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,  
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be\_ in vain.  
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil  
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,  
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of\_ their toil.  
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel\_ may em - brace.  
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr.  
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## The 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.**

## Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

**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;**  
**and 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.**

### **Instructions and Invitation to the Table**

*All are welcome at Christ's table. Ushers will guide you. Gluten-free and non-alcoholic elements are available.*

### **Distribution and Music**

*As Rain From the Clouds*

ELW #508

*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

ELW #680

*We Come to the Hungry Feast*

ELW #479

### **Post-Communion Blessing**

— SENDING —

#### **Sending Hymn**

*The Trees of the Field*

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#### **Blessing**

May the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,  
✠ one God, who formed you with delight  
and called you by name,  
bless, heal, hold, and empower you  
today and always. **Amen.**

# The Trees of the Field

The musical score is written on six staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a clear 3-beat structure. The lyrics describe a scene of joy and peace, with trees clapping their hands.

We shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
the moun-tains and the hills will break forth be-fore you. There'll be  
shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their  
hands. And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, the  
trees of the field will clap their hands, the trees of the field will  
clap their hands, While we go out with joy.

Text: Steffi Geiser Rubin

Music: Stuart Dauermann

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## Dismissal

Go in peace. Share God's love!

**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

*Thank you for worshipping with us today! We are a more complete community because you are here. Everyone is invited to share coffee, tea, treats, and friendly conversation in the Fellowship Hall after worship. Please join us!*

# Announcements

**Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Anne** happens every Tuesday at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom (a link can be found in each Wednesday email). This week's readings: Isaiah 44:6-8; Romans 8:12-25 ; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**Ministry Leader Planning Meeting Today** - Ministry leaders and other interested persons will meet on Sunday, July 12th in room C1 after church. We will discuss plans for this coming year. You're welcome to attend.

**Donate a plant for the sanctuary!** According to the Church calendar, we're in the Time After Pentecost -- or what Pastor Anne likes to call, "the green and growing season." You'll notice scripture lessons and themes around discipleship, faith formation, abundance, life, and transformation. In keeping with that spirit, we're beautifying our sanctuary with more and more greenery through the summer and into fall. We hope to add one or two new green plants to our space each week. Please consider donating a plant anonymously or in honor or memory of a loved one.

Thanks to Tami "Green Thumb" Green for suggesting the following indoor plants, which should do well in the conditions of our sanctuary: Prayer Plant, Cast Iron Plant, Heart-Leaf Philodendron, ZZ Plant, Snake Plant, Dwarf Umbrella Plant, Peperomia Obtusifolia, Begonia Rex, Chinese Evergreen, Peace Lily, Dracaena, English Ivy, Pothos Plants

**SAVE THE DATE! Please note these special summer Sundays:**

July 19: Outdoor Worship

August 2: Garden of Giving Open House (after worship)

August 16: Outdoor Worship

September 13: Rally Day with Ministry Fair and Carnival!

**Live Music & Food Truck Wednesdays are HERE! July 15 is Paparepas truck with Sean Bendickson live music.** Join your church family and our neighbors for an evening of food, fellowship, and live music! From 4:30 to



7:30pm every Wednesday during the summer you will find a local food truck *and* a local band right outside Advent's sanctuary. Come support a local business for dinner and stay for the fun! Tables and chairs are provided but you're invited to bring your favorite lawn chair or blanket and BYOB. Sign up to help with setup or cleanup. All are welcome!

**Blood Drive returns on July 27 at 10am to 4pm.** Seattle is a host city for the FIFA Men's World Cup 2026, June 11 – July 19, 2026. Just like in soccer, every player matters. And in our community, every blood donor does too. When you donate blood, you help create a level playing field for patients whose lives depend on timely access to lifesaving blood. Join us July 27 and book your appointment for the [Advent Lutheran Church Community Blood Drive](#). The blood collection team from Bloodworks Northwest will be in the Fellowship Hall for the day, and you only need to set aside an hour of your time to have a game-changing impact. Donors need to be at least 16 years old, and everyone needs to check in with photo ID. You can enter to Donate & Win a \$10,000 Gift Card, <https://www.bloodworksnw.org/win> June 1 – July 31, 2026. The lucky winner will be contacted via email before August 15, 2026, and will have 48 hours to accept their prize.

# Connect

## Council Leaders

Gail Walters, President  
Miriam Brady, Vice President  
Michael Flynn, Secretary  
Brian Hall, Treasurer  
Eric Botterbusch, President Emeritus  
Chris Burns  
Margaret Duncan  
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