

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion towards all who call this place home.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Church Campout – Aug 23-25 at Park Lake. Sign up sheet in our Place of Welcome.

INTRODUCTION

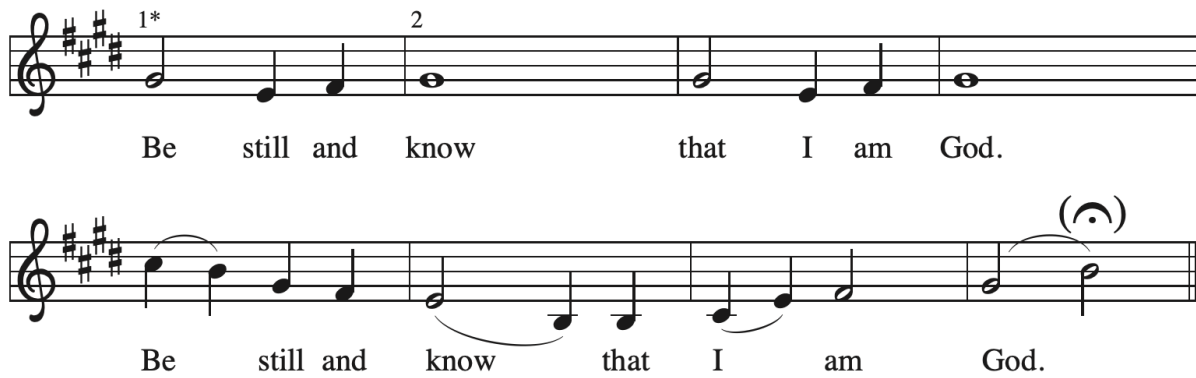
In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

We take a moment to center our hearts and minds for worship.

GATHERING

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✝ one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

"Be Still" ACS 1083



Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

**Sing to the Lord, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.**

Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**Search for the strength of the Lord;
continually seek God's face.**

Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,
**O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**

The Lord is our God,
whose judgments prevail in all the world,
**who has always been mindful of the covenant,
the promise made for a thousand generations:**

the covenant made with Abraham,
the oath sworn to Isaac,
**which God established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,**

saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
to be your allotted inheritance" . . .
**that they might keep your statutes
and observe your teachings. Hallelujah!**

"Ten Thousand Reasons" ACS

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,
O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your
end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
good-ness, I will keep .. on .. sing-ing— ten thou-sand
soul will sing your praise un - end-ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
rea - sons for my heart to find.
years and then for - ev - er - more!

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

It is our delight to pray. Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 29:15-28

Laban deceives Jacob by giving his older daughter, Leah, to Jacob in marriage instead of the promised younger daughter, Rachel. Because of his love for Rachel, Jacob agrees to work for Laban for an additional seven years so that he may also be married to her.

A reading from Genesis.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

For the word of God in scripture,
for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil” WOV 713 (sing once)

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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

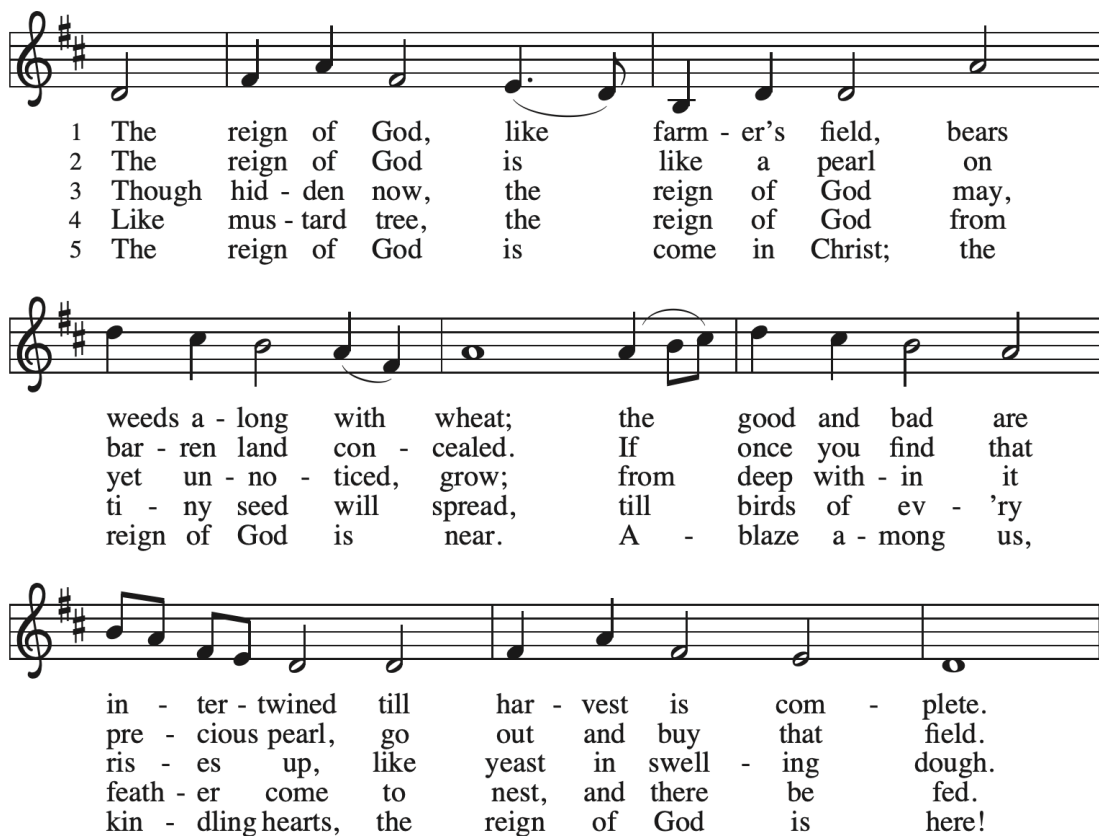
“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "The Reign of God, Like Farmer's Field" ACS 952 – v 1 solo, v 2-5 all



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
 3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
 4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the

weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
 bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
 yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
 ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
 reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,

in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
 pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
 ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
 feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
 kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you,

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (WITH SONG)

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

"Come, Bring Your Burdens to God" ACS 1009

Wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom -
Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your

thwa - lo wa - kho; wo - za nom - thwa - lo wa - kho, U -
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for

ye - s'a - ka - so - za - thi hayi.
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way.

God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Send rain where it is needed and protect forests and wetlands.

**Come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God;
Come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.**

God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples' stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. We pray for those whose lives have been affected by war that they too may live in your promises.

God our intercessor, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty. We pray especially for Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Janet D, Dave, Austin, Tiffany, Patrick, Linda H, Carol, Murray, Shirley J., Isobel, Jim N., Clayton P, Marlene and Darcy, Doreen, Clayton and Margaret, Sheila, Ray, Nancy, Alan T, Cherylee, Elda and those we name silently now . . . [silence].

**Come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God;
Come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.**

God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks. Bless the Saturday Coffee Group and hold in your care Wayne and Erika Street and Mike and Debbie Tersteeg, as well as Pastor Joel, Vanesa and Hans. May we trust your love above and beyond all else.

God, our Redeemer, grateful for you're the gift of grace and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

**Come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God;
Come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.**

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW Setting 6

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en 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.

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 your Holy Spirit,
that by this Holy Communion we may know
the unity we share with all your people
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

*Together let us take and eat, the body of Christ given for you
Together let us take and drink, the blood of Christ shed for you*

COMMUNION SONGS

Video Contemplation: Psalm 36

"Seek Ye First" WOV 783/binder

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
 2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and
 3 We do not live by bread . . . a - lone, but by

le - lu - ia, al - le -

righteous - ness, and all these things shall be
 you shall find; knock and the door shall be
 ev - 'ry word that pro - ceeds from the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
 mouth . . of . . . God. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

"Come to God's Table" Tune: "Be Thou My Vision" (binder version

Come to God's table, for all is prepared,
the bread that we offer is broken and shared,
Christ's presence among us is food for the soul,
reviving, renewing, and making us whole.

Come to God's table, and drink of the wine,
the blood of the Saviour, in mystery divine,
the cup of salvation both priceless and free,
transforming God's people to all we can be.

Come to God's table, we come as we are,
we bring all the burdens we've carried so far,
in body, in spirit, in soul, mind and heart,
to feed on the grace only God can impart.

Come to God's table! then go in God's grace
to hold all the earth in a heav'nly embrace,
sent out in the Spirit to tend and to care
in thought, word and action, our life is our prayer.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received this meal may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: Pour out your Spirit on all who share your word and sacrament with those who are sick or homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG "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 our 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.

SENDING

Go in peace, for Christ is with you.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

COPYRIGHT PERMISSION

1. **"Be Still and Know"** Text: Psalm 46:10, Music: John Bell, © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
2. **"Ten Thousand Reasons"** Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin © Shout! Publishing. Reproduced with permission under CCLI License #547407.
3. **"Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil"** Text & Music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, © Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
4. "The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field" Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. Music: Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816; arr. With One Voice, 1995. Text © 1995, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc. ARR. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
5. **"Come, Bring Your Burdens to God"** Text: South African, English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick, Music: South African melody; arr: Welile Sigabi. English text and arr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
6. **"Holy, Holy, Holy"** Evangelical Lutheran Book of Worship Setting six. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.
7. **"Seek Ye First"** Text: Matthew 6:33, 7:7; adapt. Karen Lafferty; Music: Karen Lafferty; Text & Music © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. The Copyright Company. Reproduced with permission under CCLI License #547407.
8. **"Come to God's Table"** Words: © Ally Barrett, Joel Payne / Resound Worship, Administered by Jubilate Hymns Ltd - copyrightmanager@jubilatehymns.co.uk CCL# 7204580. Tune: **"Be Thou My Vision"** Text: Irish 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanore H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt. Music: Irish Tune. Public Domain
9. **"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"** Text: Omar Wentendorf, 1916-1997, alt. Music: Welsh folk tune. Text © 1964 World Library Publication. Reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-712444.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-712444, and CCLI Licence #547407. All rights reserved.