

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 12, 2026

Welcome

P This is the day that the Lord has made!

C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!



Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P 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.

P 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.**

Greeting

P 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.**

Opening Praise Songs (next page)

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy



1 I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
2 I've got the peace that pass - es un - der - stand - ing,
3 I've got the love of Je - sus, love of Je - sus,



down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;
down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart;



I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
I've got the peace that pass - es un - der - stand - ing,
I've got the love of Je - sus, love of Je - sus,



down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

Text: George W. Cooke
Music: DOWN IN MY HEART, George W. Cooke

Father, I Adore You (we will sing in a round)

Father, I adore You, lay my life before You,
How I love You.

Jesus, I adore You, lay my life before You,
How I love You.

Spirit, I adore You, lay my life before You,
How I love You.

Prayer of the Day

P 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.**

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

First Reading *Isaiah 55:10-13*

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, 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.

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. 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.

...This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65:9-13

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ 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*

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 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, 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. 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. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 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, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 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.

... *This is the Word of the Lord.*

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse

Please stand as you are able

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 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. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 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. 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. 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.*

(sung) Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

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
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The Apostles' Creed

A Let us profess our faith through the words of the Apostles Creed.

C 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 to the dead. 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.

Prayers of the Church

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

A brief silence.

God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward Isaiah's vision, when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those impacted by war and violence, for our men and women in the armed forces, and for all first responders. We also ask for your blessing on Patrick, Pr. Fred, Glenda, and Arlen, and for those for whom we now pray, either in our hearts or aloud:

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us. Show us your will for the ministries of TOL, Augustana, Good Shepherd and Pr. Sohail's South Asian worshipping community as we serve our neighbors in love.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are able

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 God 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. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn (*sung*):

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray. **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.**

{P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!}

Communion Song

Please be seated

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion: Please be seated until the usher directs your row to the communion rail. Please come to the communion rail and stand or kneel. If you do not wish to receive communion, please come for a blessing. All who share our confession that Christ is present in the Sacrament are welcome to join us at the Lord's table. White grape juice is available in the center of the communion cup tray. If you would like a gluten free wafer, please let Pastor know.

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn (*next page*)

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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Dismissal

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTERS: All the Members of Our Congregation

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Music Minister: Don Grabau Media Minister: Jeff Ward

Worship Assistant: Sharon Wall

Prayer Partner: Earlene Crocker

Prayers and Announcements

Prayers

Welcome: We extend a very warm welcome to everyone worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we are delighted to have you here, and we hope you enjoy your worship time here with us.

Prayer Partner Ministry: If you are in need of additional prayer, please come to the Parents' Room in the back of church following worship. Prayers are confidential. Today's prayer partner is Earlene Crocker.

Today's Altar Flowers: Are given to the Glory of God, dedicated to Pastor Fred and Anne on new beginnings! All the best from your TOL family!

Offering: Thank you for your gifts to TOL. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you send your offering through the US mail, please use checks only-please don't mail cash. We also have online giving through tithe.ly, which can be accessed through TOL's website (www.trinityoldlutheran.com) or on your smartphone.

Mission for July: Our mission this month is Lutheran Charities of WNY. For over 40 years, Lutheran Charities' mission has been to support our community with kindness, compassion, justice and generosity. For the past several years, TOL has received grants from them to help with our sandwich ministry. Prior to that, they helped support our Respite Care program. Please use the marked envelopes in the narthex. Thank you.

Grief Support Meeting at TOL: For those who have experienced the death of a child or grandchild. We meet the first Tuesday of each month, next on **Tuesday, July 14**. The summer meetings will be Zoom only. Please see Charlie or Diane Schmidtke for a Zoom link. The meetings begin at 10 am until 11:30.

Pastor's Birthday/Retirement Picnic: Important info about the picnic is in the letter you received, or will receive soon. The picnic is on **Sunday, July 26 at Emery Park at 11**. We invite you to carpool; the details will be in the letter. Please use the sign up sheet in the narthex. Also, please bring a snack, salad or dessert to share if you can. Sandwiches and bottled water will be provided. **There will NOT be a worship service at TOL on Sunday, July 26!** Thank you!

Annual Workday at Holy Rest Cemetery: We will meet at the cemetery on **Saturday, August 1** from 9 am till noon. Your help would be greatly appreciated. We will be picking up debris and trimming around stones. Please bring a hand trimmer or weed whacker if you have one, gardening gloves, hats, sunglasses, etc. Cold bottled water will be provided. For more information, please contact Matt Grabau.

Annual Craft Fair and Theme Basket Fundraiser: There will be a planning meeting following worship on **Sunday, August 2** for our fund raising event will be held on **Saturday, Sept. 19**. **Theme baskets, gift cards, volunteers and baked goods are needed** to make this year's event a success. Please spread the word about the craft fair and basket raffle to your friends and neighbors! Any questions about the basket auction, please see Debbie Feger or Kelly Barker. Thank you for your help and support!

Adult Education Fall 2026 through Spring 2027: Classes begin on **Monday, Sept. 11**, and the focus will be on Religious Leaders. Details coming soon!

Adult Retreat Coming in September: Please see the article in the July Trinity Tidings about the upcoming Adult Retreat which will take place at beautiful Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center the weekend of **October 2 - 4**. There is a display in the narthex with photos and memories of last year's retreat. If you are interested, there is a sign up sheet on the main bulletin board.

Weidner's Chicken BBQ at Good Shepherd: This **Saturday, July 18**, starting at 12 noon. Tickets are \$15. Tickets are available online at www.gslctona.org or can be purchased the day of the event. Take-out only (drive through for pickup).

Book Club at Augustana: All are invited to discuss the book *Judge Stone* written by Viola Davis and James Patterson, on **Thursday, July 30**. We will begin with a potluck dinner at 6 pm.

Operation Christmas Child: The suggested donations for **July** are ink pens, pencils or colored pencils, pencil sharpener and pencil cases. Thank you!

Devotionals: If you would like a “Christ in Our Home” devotional for **July through September 2026**, please pick one up in the narthex or call the church office.

Book and Puzzle Sale: Please visit our Book Sale in the Resource Library, which is the first room in the hallway near the main bulletin board. Books and puzzles are always being added and are available for a fraction of the cost at retail. No cost for the greeting cards available. Proceeds are used for church building interior improvements.

Thank You for your Continuing Support of these ministries:

- Non-perishable food items for the food pantry at Good Shepherd.
- Grocery store gift cards for individuals in need.
- Aluminum can pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House – bin in hallway.
- Dash’s Tapes for the Niagara Lutheran Health System – bin in hallway.
- Cans and bottles to be recycled – barrel in hallway.
- Clothing and hygiene items for Friends of Night People– blue barrel.
- Items for Operation Christmas Child boxes – bin in hallway.

This week’s calendar

<p><i>Please notify the Church Office of any schedule changes, member illness, prayer request, etc., so church staff can respond accordingly. Office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 am–12 noon.</i></p> <p><i>For a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Fred. For office related matters, please leave a voice mail message or send an email.</i></p>	Sun	7/12	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting
	Mon	7/13	10 am 4 pm 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	OA Meeting Sandwich Team #1 Yoga AA
	Tues	7/14	10 am 5:45 pm 7:30 pm	Grief Support on Zoom Chair Yoga CoDA
	Wed	7/15		
	Thur	7/16	9:30 am 5:45 pm 7 pm	Yoga Yoga GA Meeting
	Fri	7/17	10 am	South Asian Lutheran Community
	Sat	7/18		
	Sun	7/19	9:30 am 11 am 3:30 pm 7 pm	Worship Service at Augustana Worship Service at TOL Abiding Faith Worship GA Meeting

TOL’s Free WiFi and Password:

N7W7y; Password = limp82hewer43dig



