



a **SOWER** went out to **SOW**

MATTHEW 13:3

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026

St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville

5600 Junior Furnace-Powellsville Road

Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937

Church 740-574-8028 or email: stjohn1875@gmail.com



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SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service of the Word

Leader: People of St. John, what is our purpose?

All: To live for the Lord who made us, to love as Jesus taught us, and to serve where the Spirit leads us.

PRELUDE

+ GATHERING SONG

For the Beauty of the Earth

#561

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For your - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly giv'n;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light;
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
a - gent of God's grand de - sign, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Refrain
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

+ GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:13*)

C **And also with you.**

P You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C **a people holy to the Lord our God.**

P Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children,

P **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

P One does not live by bread alone,

C **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

+ SCRIPTURE SONG



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul-er of all the na-tions.



Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One. All



na-tions will draw near and wor-ship be-fore you,



for your just and ho-ly works have been re-vealed.



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

C 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.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children will be dismissed to Children's Church following the Children's Sermon

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ 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,

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 succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² 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.

¹³ 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.

PSALM: 65:[1-8] 9-13

P ¹ You are to be praised, O ¹ God, in Zion;
to you shall vows ¹ be fulfilled.

² **To you, the one ¹ who answers prayer,
to you all ¹ flesh shall come.**

³ Our sins are strong- ¹ er than we are,
but you blot out ¹ our transgressions.

⁴ **Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your ¹ courts to dwell
there!**

**They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness ¹ of
your temple. R**

⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of ¹ our
salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans ¹ far away.

⁶ **You make firm the mountains ¹ by your power;
you are girded a- ¹ bout with might.**

⁷ You still the roaring ¹ of the seas,

the roaring of their waves, and the clamor¹ of the peoples.

⁸ **Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your¹ marvelous signs;**

you make the dawn and the dusk to¹ sing for joy. R

] ⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is¹ full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide¹ for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth¹ out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and¹ bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year¹ with your goodness,
and your paths over-¹ flow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be¹ rich for grazing,
and the hills be¹ clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for¹ joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³

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, ⁴

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. ⁵

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. ⁶

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷

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, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ 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. ¹⁰

But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ 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.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip - tures.



+ THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter.

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

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ 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. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ 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. ²² 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. ²³ 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."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

Pastor Francis

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION



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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+ RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION

- P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
- C We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)
- P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- 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 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**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C pray in the Holy Spirit. (*Jude 20*)

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Jude 21*)

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!
(*2 Corinthians 5:17*)

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

C Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self examination.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P Almighty God have mercy on you,

forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen

+ PEACE

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

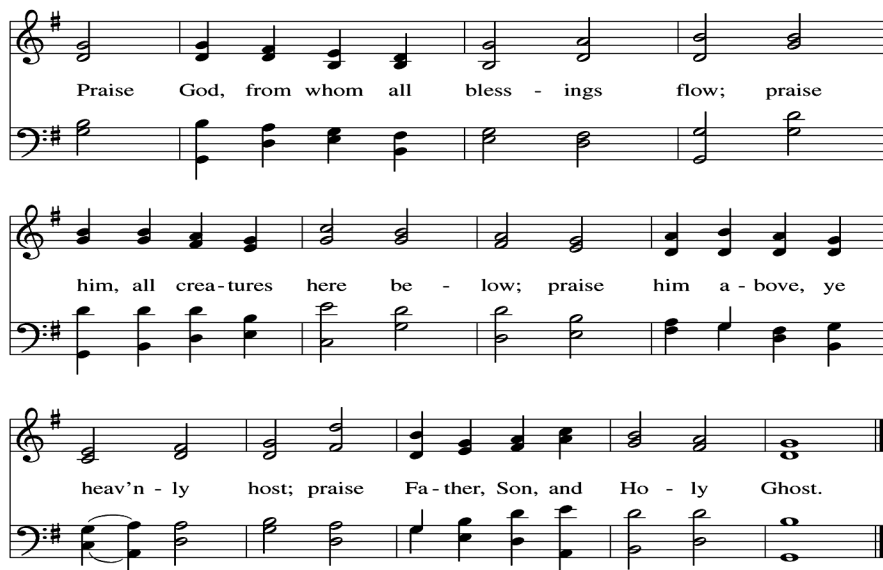
The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

OFFERING

+ OFFERTORY



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDETH, Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510–1561

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

P God, our Creator,

C you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P 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.

P 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,

C hear our prayer.

P 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,

C hear our prayer.

P 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 (*global concerns may be named*). God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P 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 (*especially*). God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P 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. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P 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 (*especially Bishop Nathan Söderblom, whom the church commemorates today*). God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

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

C Amen.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

+ BLESSING

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

C Amen

+ SENDING SONG

Praise and Thanksgiving

#409

Please use your Green LBW Hymnal for hymn #409.

+ Dismissal

P Go in peace.

Children Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

+Stand as you are able

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SERVING TODAY

Organist
Lay Reader
Prayer Leader
Greeter
Acolytes
Altar Committee
Council President

Leigh Ann Henry
Dawn Scott
Vicki Floyd
Vicki Floyd

Sonny & Sherry Mullins
Rick Williams

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH. We are pleased you are here. If you are visiting with us this morning, please sign our guest book in the entrance area. We hope you will join us again very soon.

LET US PRAY FOR: Dale Ramey, Emily Smith, Peggy Butler, Roberta Sommer, Patricia Cavendish, Jim Skipworth, Galen Gleim, Grace Mootz, Marcella Mootz, Kay Staker, Kimberly Tolliver, Bill Murphy, Linda Martin, Melaine Hawk, Nicholas Young, Jason Pierce, Beth Miller, Jane Staker, Rod Schneider, Ed Hughes, Brenda Moore, Ken Staker, Greg Piguet, Mary McQuay, Chris Parish, Charles Ricketts, Chris Young,, Ginger Setvenson, Tom Bussler, Kendra Hughes, Jeff Dettwiller, Virginia Nickel, Luke White, Jack Clevenger, Bob Rase, Glenn Rase, Jim Webb, Leah Willis, Dennis Klaiber, James & Kym Hayman, Bryan Hicks, Mackenzie Gleim, Derrick Gleim, Sharon McMackin, Cheryl Crank, Congregation of the Mountain Church in Asmushausen, Germany, the members of our armed forces, and those we hold privately in our hearts.

VIRGINIA NICKEL wants to thank the congregation for their prayers, cards, phone calls, asnd visits during her recent recovery. .

JOIN US ON JULY 19 as we welcome Vicar Tim Jordan as our new Pastor.. This will be his first Sunday A light breakfast at 9:00 a.m. is being planned to welcome him to St. John's

VICAR TIM JORDAN'S ORDINATION SERVICE will be on Saturday. August 8 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 67 North 5th St., Newark, OH 43055

Accommodations: The Double Tree by Hilton is only a few blocks from St. Paul's. I have reserved a block of rooms there, and you can gain the discount if you make the reservation by Tuesday, July 7 th . You can also call the front deskat 740-322-6455. Reference "Jordan Ordination" and code 907.

Address: Double Tree by Hilton
50 North 2 nd St.
Newark, OH 43055

If you participate in another chain's rewards program or have an interest in historic inns, here are some additional options in other parts of the area:

Addresses: Courtyard by Marriott Holiday Inn Express & Suites

500 Highland Blvd. 1405 Hebron Rd.

Newark, OH 43055 Heath, OH 43056

(740) 344-1800 (740) 915-9999

Granville Inn Buxton Inn

314 E Broadway 313 E Broadway,

Granville, OH 43023 Granville, OH 43023

(740) 587-3333 (740) 587-0001

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

1405 Hebron Rd.

Heath, OH 43056

(740) 915-9999

Buxton Inn*

313 E Broadway,

Granville, OH 43023

(740) 587-0001

VICAR TIM JORDAN'S INSTALLATION

SERVICE will be on Sunday, August 9 during worship service We will celebrate with a potluck / carry-in dinner immediately following.

GET READY for the next St. John kid's activity! On Sunday, July 26, after church, we will meet at the Ramey/Salyers pool to enjoy an afternoon of fun! Bring your swim suits to church to change and head on down to the pool! Lunch will be provided. Questions see Vivian Riffel or Dené DeGonzague.

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Olivia Stafford, Ethan Mullins, Nathan Riehl, Jane Staker

BAPTISMS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Mark & Cathy Gleim, Randy & Katherine King,

IF WE MISSED ANYONE please let Vicki Bradley know so we can add you to the list.

This Week at St. John

Today—*Seventh Sunday of Pentecost*

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

Next Sunday—*Eighth Sunday of Pentecost*

9:00 a.m. Light Breakfast to Welcome Vicar Tim Jordan

10:00 a.m. **Worship**—*Holy Communion*—Vicar Tim Jordan's first Sunday

11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Attendance

2026 Average 64

2025 Average 62

Serving Next Sunday, July 19

Organist

Leigh Ann Henry

Worship Assistant

Vivian Riffel

Lay Reader

Vicki Floyd

Prayer Leader

Vivian Riffel

Greeter

James & Kym Hayman

Acolytes

Altar Committee

Julie Gleim, Wendy Queen

Council President

Rick Williams

Coming Events

Sunday, July 19 Vicar Tim Jordan's first Sunday

Sunday, July 19 at 9:00 a.m. Light Breakfast

Sunday, July 19 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Sunday, July 26 immediately after worship Youth Group Pool Activity at the Ramey/Salyers pool

Saturday, August 8 Vicar Tim Jordan's Ordination at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 9 Vicar Tim Jordan's installation service at St. John Potluck / carry-in dinner immediately after worship

Sunday, August 16 Church Council Meeting

Sunday, July 19

Vicar Tim Jordan's first Sunday

Sunday, July 19

**At 9:00 a.m. light breakfast to welcome
Vicar Tim Jordan**

Sunday, July 26

**Youth Group Pool Activity at the Ramey/Salyers
immediately following worship. Lunch will be provided.**

Saturday, August 8

**Vicar Tim Jordan's Ordination Service at 11:00 a.m. at
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 67 North 5th St.,
Newark, OH 43055**

Sunday, August 9

**Installation Service for Pastor Tim Jordan
Potluck / carry-in dinner immediately after worship
Evangelical Lutheran Church, 67 North 5th St., Newark,
OH 43055**

