

July 12, 2026
7th Sunday after Pentecost



Leading Worship Today:
Preacher: Brian Entz
Lay Leader: Barb Janski
Accompanist: Ralph Johansen

*Please read along with all **Bold** text
All are invited to stand when there is an **

Larger Print: Please see an usher if you would like larger print hymns.

PRELUDE
One Day Closer to Heaven
Bass Clef Singers Ralph Johansen, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Hell is timely, for Hell is the thought
that Hell will go on, on and on, without end.
Heaven is only present, instantaneous and eternal,
a mayfly, a blue dayflower, a life entirely given,
complete forever in its hour.
-Wendell Berry*

GATHERING

CHORAL INTROIT
Bound for Jubilee
Eilers
Bass Clef Singers

*CALL TO WORSHIP
You, God, are my God,
earnestly I seek you;
I thirst for you,
my whole being longs for you,
in a dry and parched land
where there is no water.
I have seen you in the sanctuary
and beheld your power and your glory.
Because your love is better than life,
my lips will glorify you.

*OPENING HYMN
#393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us confess to our God, for the Lord is just in all God's ways and kind in all God's doings.
The Lord is near to all who call on God, to all who call on God in truth.

Holy One, whose love and justice condemn us, whose mercy and kindness feed us, We confess our sins and pray for your forgiveness. What terrible suffering we have unleashed. We have used other people without regard for their dignity; We have abused the earth without care for its beauty or concern for future life; We have sought to bargain with you, to smooth our way to heaven. God change us. Put the Spirit of Christ within us and cause us to grow into mature, faithful disciples of the one who came from you to save us from our sin. Free us from captivity to our selfishness, bind us to the whole body of Christ, and let us bear witness to the truth that your love holds everything together in perfect unity. We pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

As water is poured into the font remember your baptism and that in these waters your sins are forgiven and you are named as one of God's beloved and joined to Christ forever.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Do not fear, says God, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name and you are mine. Receive this good news, In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free!

Thanks be to God, Alleluia!

***RESPONSE**

#581 The Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through Christ's faithfulness, we have peace with God. Let us also share peace with one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*The people may exchange with their neighbors, by words or gesture,
signs of peace and reconciliation.*

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Teach us, O God, to know and understand the scriptures as Jesus knew and understood them, that they may help us to grow more faithful to you. Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalms 119: 105-112

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶ I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.

¹⁰⁷ I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,
and teach me your ordinances.
¹⁰⁹ I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.
¹¹⁰ The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.
¹¹¹ Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
¹¹² I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

8 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

#171 A Sower Came from Ancient Hills

THIRD READING

Matt. 13: 1-9, 18-23

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. ¹⁹When 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. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet 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. ²²As 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. ²³But 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 Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Pastor Brian Entz

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

Give Us a Song

Martin

Bass Clef Singers Ralph Johansen, piano



*“Let us present ourselves to God
as those who have been delivered from death to life.”
To contribute to our mission and ministry online, please scan the QR code.*

*DOXOLOGY

#606 Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Bless us, O God, and these our offerings, that they and we might serve your purposes and work towards your Kingdom till you bring it in fullness. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Philippians 2

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
**who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him**

and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We come before you O God in gratitude for your loving kindness and mercy. We praise you for the generosity with which you scatter your love and mercy across the world and our lives. Nurture the soil of our spirits that we might be ready to receive and respond to your grace in every moment it appears. Continue to cultivate in us a great love for you and the whole of your creation and give us courage to follow in the way of Jesus your Son.

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

We pray for the church...

Let us be a sign of your promised realm and make us ready to meet our Savior Christ when he comes again in glory. Strengthen us in our faith and give us courage and compassion to extend the mercy we have been shown to others.

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

We pray for the world...

Make a way in the wilderness of this world. Bring justice and equality to every land and let all creatures know your saving love. Bring peace to every corner of the world (especially Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine, Yemen), and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Transform us and all your Church into peacemakers by the power of your Spirit. Help us to seek the common good of all your creation and remember that you have made us to share life with you and all you have made.

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

We pray for this community...

We pray for Buffalo and Wright County, for all of our neighbors who live, work, study, and play here. Strengthen us in times of difficulty and give us compassion for all our neighbors.

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

We pray for loved ones...

Let your tender mercy shine on them. Comfort those who wait in the gloom of death's shadow and guide their feet onto the path of peace. Pour out your healing and mercy to those in need, especially...

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

Nurture the soil of our lives, O Lord, that we may rejoice and be glad when your reign of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord, who taught us to pray saying...

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN

#541 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

Hallelujah for the Day!

arr. Ramsey Bass Clef Singers

Ralph Johnsen, piano

POSTLUDE

Voluntary

John Stanley

Loving all People, Living our Faith, and Following Jesus

WORSHIP NOTES

The Call to Worship is taken from Psalm 63 (NIV).

The Prayer of Confession taken from, Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion Liturgies for Year B, Vol. 2.

All other liturgy comes/is adapted from the Book of Common Worship (2018) or is written in house.

One Day Closer to Heaven Words and Music by Michael Agre ©2025

Bound for Jubilee Words and Music by Joyce Elaine Eilers ©1979 by STUDIO 224

Give Us a Song Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin © 2012 by HAL LEONARD-MILWIN MUSIC CORP.

Hallelujah for the Day! Traditional Fisherman's Prayer in Ghana music by Andrea Ramsey ©2012 by HAL LEONARD CORPORATION

#393 O Day of Rest and Gladness | Stanzas 1–2, Christopher Wordsworth, 1862, alt.; stanza 3, Charles P. Price, 1980, alt., Memmingen ms., 17th cent.; harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904, Text St. 3 © 1985 Charles P. Price

#171 A Sower Came from Ancient Hills | Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1998, John D. Horman, 2003, Text © 1993, 2006 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2003 Zimbel Press

#541 God Be with You Till We Meet Again | Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, alt., Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906, Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Represent BPC: Sign up outside the office to help staff the church table and represent BPC at Wright Sherburne Pride on **July 18th**. The festival runs 11am-3pm, with set up and take down our total time that day will be **9:30am till 3:30-4pm**.

Worship in the Park: Join us, along with Spirit of Joy on **July 19th** at **Sturges Park** at **9:30am** for our Sunday worship service.

Community Meal: Our community meal will be **Saturday, July 25th** from **5pm - 7pm**. If you are able to help with the meal, sign up sheets are outside the BPC office. We are looking for help on the following:

Food Prep / Setup: 4pm - 5:30pm

Serve / Clear & Reset Tables: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Clean Up: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Women's Retreat "Weekend with an Immersive God": Join the women of the church for a peaceful weekend of faith, fellowship, reflection, and beautiful outdoor surroundings. Come away for a refreshing time to reconnect, rest, and be immersed in God's presence.

Date: Sept. 25-27

Place: Clearwater Forest, Deerwood, MN

Cost: \$160.00 plus meals

August 1: Deposit of \$100.00

September 1: Remainder of the cost

For information on scholarships contact Pastor Brian.

Immigration Aid Collection: There is a bin outside the Fellowship Hall for donations of bath and body soap, dish soap, and laundry detergent. Our immigrant neighbors are still in need of our help, let us keep loving our neighbors!

Today July 12	9:30am: Worship 11:00am: Faith Formation Meeting
Tuesday July 14	9:00am: Crafty Ladies 9:00am: Guy's Breakfast 1:00pm: Finance Committee 5:00pm: Missions Committee
Thursday July 16	7:30am: People of Faith via Zoom 10:00am: Women of Faith 5:30pm: Racial Justice Reading Group
Saturday July 18	11:00am: Pride Festival
Sunday July 19	9:30am: Worship in the Park

How Can We Pray for You?

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests:



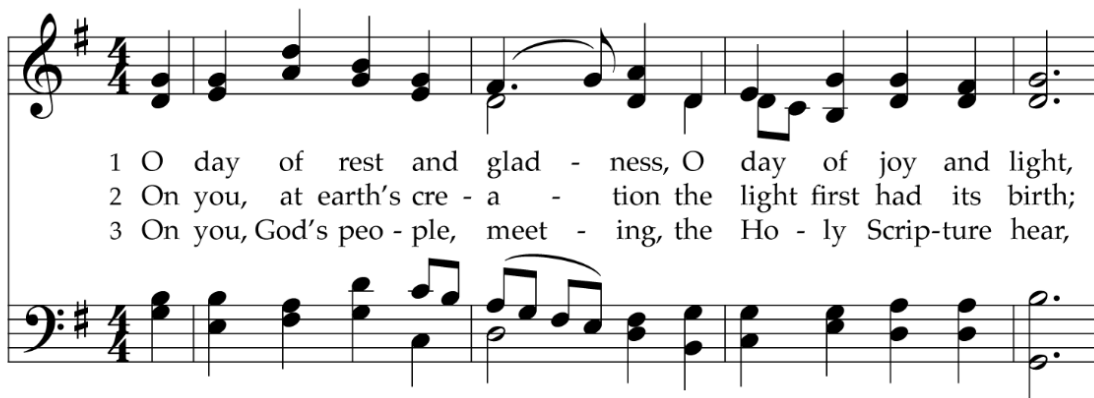
Along with the blue prayer request cards found in the pews you can also submit prayer requests on the BPC website. Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to be taken directly to the prayer request form. All prayer requests go directly to Pastor Brian.

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests.

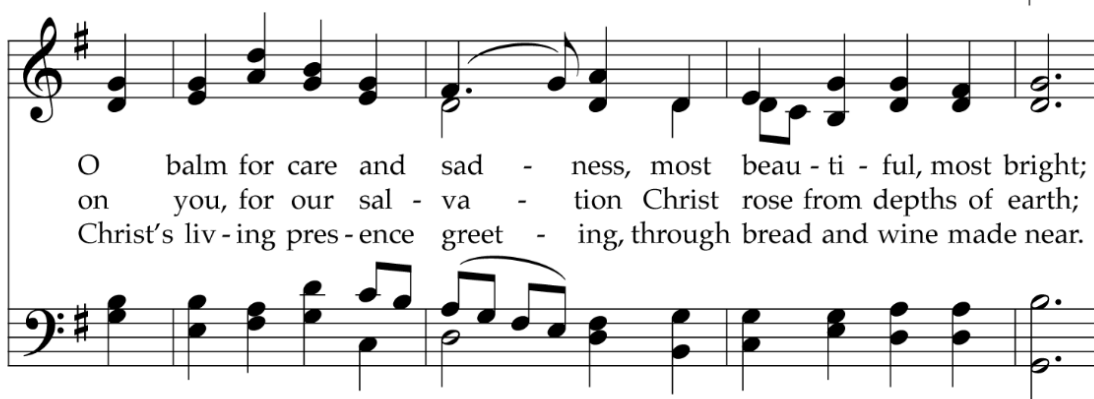
BPC Prayer List:

- Rich Dahl
- Christy Wood
- Dennis Stanley, fighting cancer
- The Family of Marquietta Shupe
- Anne Marie Wille, Bonnie Morek's daughter
- Dennis Sletten, friend of Diane
- Sherry Sletten, friend of Diane
- Lois Lindstrom
- Madree
- Jim, Elaine Thole's brother, following a diagnosis
- Donna, a friend of Lana Kopplin, who has cancer
- Jonathon, a friend of Barb & Larry Janski
- Shannon, Virginia's former daughter-in-law
- Erva Hance
- Barb and Tom Stone
- Rochelle Tandrian, Angela's daughter
- Jodi & the family of Jim Underwood, Lanny & Shirley's son-in-law
- Brittany Daniels
- John and Charlotte Collins
- Cassie & Bryce Taylor, grandson of Lanny and Shirley Taylor
- Louise Markve
- Don Eddy
- Joseph Wille, Bonnie Morek's grandson
- Family of Rev. Kerry Carson
- Windi Willette
- Tony
- Allen, father of Jennifer Glauvitz
- Fred, brother of Arnold Leas
- The Grady Family (friends of Theresa) upon the loss of their father

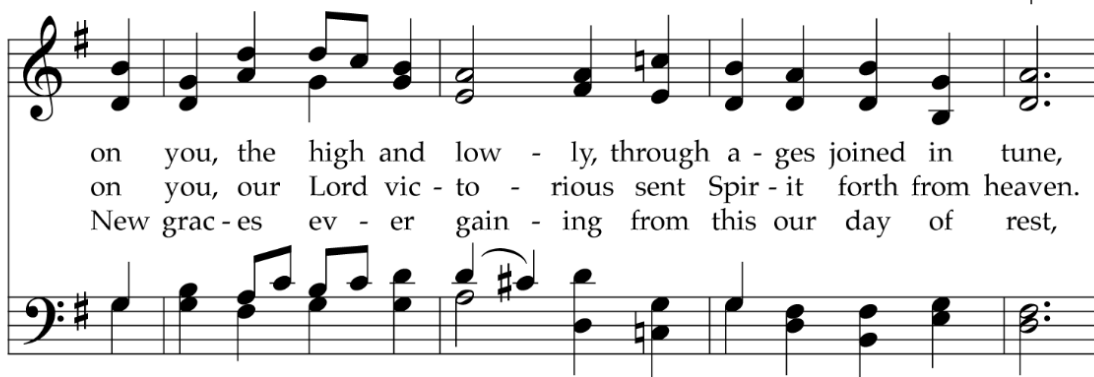
393 O Day of Rest and Gladness



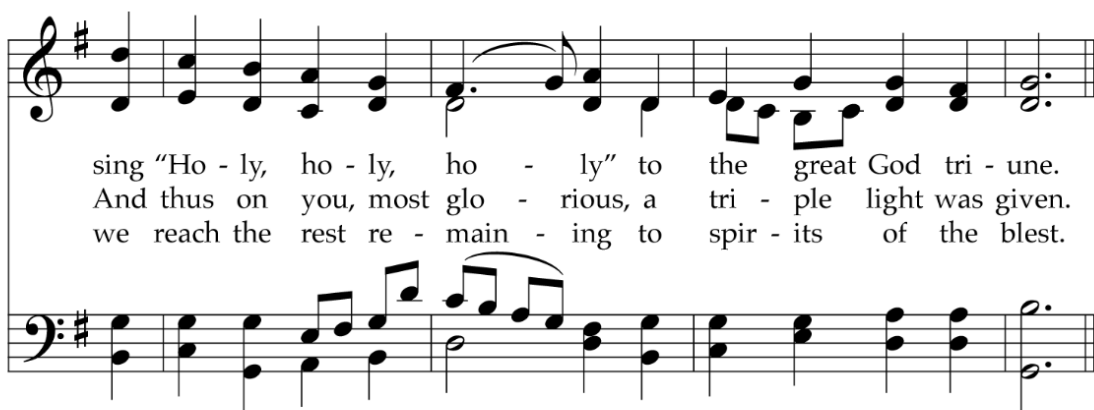
1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion the light first had its birth;
 3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip-ture hear,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
 on you, for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
 Christ's liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near.



on you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven.
 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" to the great God tri - une.
 And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

171 A Sower Came from Ancient Hills



1 A Sow - er came from an - cient hills and cast good
 2 A Sow - er walked through - out the land and, ev - ery -
 3 The Seed was bur - ied deep in death be - neath a
 4 O Christ, you come a - mong us still, the Sow - er



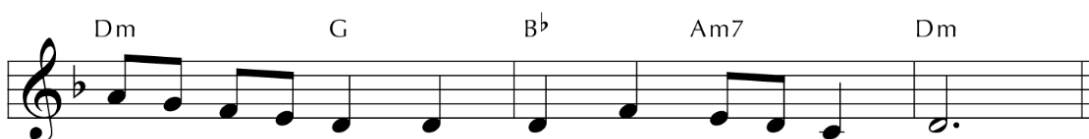
seed a - broad: his field, ten thou - sand hu - man hearts; his
 where he trod, he sowed his life be - cause he was him -
 blood - red sky, and deep - er still was bur - ied hope for
 and the Seed. As once you sowed the truth of God in



seed, the word of God. And some who lis - tened would not
 self the Seed of God. But then, a - top a bar - ren
 those who watched him die. But then, in Jo - seph's gar - den
 glow - ing word and deed, im - plant your Word in wait - ing



hear, and some who heard for - got. But some re - ceived in
 hill, be - neath a dark - ening sky, they threw God's Seed on
 fair, as dawn broke o'er the land, the Seed, from three days'
 hearts, and let it there take hold, un - til it bears in



fer - tile soil the truth the Sow - er taught.
 ston - y ground and left it there to die.
 si - lent sleep, a - woke at God's com - mand!
 fruit - ful lives a har - vest hun - dred - fold.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

All three synoptic gospels record both the telling and the explanation of Jesus' parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-8, 18-23/Mark 4:3-8, 14-20/Luke 8:5-8, 11-15). Because the seed equals "the word," Jesus (as the Word made flesh) becomes the Seed in this expansion of the parable.

God Be with You Till We Meet Again 541

Unison *Harmony*

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings pro -
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you:
 tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
 thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:
 float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:

Unison

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

A North American Congregational minister wrote this text as a Christian expansion of the root sense of "good-bye": God be [with] ye/you. The tune, named for a cousin, was composed by one of the few 20th-century British composers to make a major contribution to hymnody.