



**Morning Worship
10:00 AM
July 12, 2026
Pentecost 7**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GREETING

Leader: The Lord Be with You.

People: And Also with You.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SONG OF GATHERING (Sung twice)

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
 F B^b F B^b C7

Refrain

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
 Dm F/C B^b C7 Dm F/C Gm

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
 F B^b Gm7 F B^b F

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

MOVING FROM GETTING HERE TO BEING HERE

PRELUDE

“We know we cannot plant seeds with closed fists. To sow, we must open our hands.”

—Adolfo Perez Esquivel

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

People: We will worship the Lord with gladness, and come before God with joyful songs.

Leader: Beloved of God, know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us, and we belong to God; we are God’s people, the sheep of God’s pasture.

People: We will enter God’s gates with thanksgiving and God’s courts with praise, giving thanks to God and praising God’s holy name.

Leader: For God is good and God’s love endures forever; God’s faithfulness continues through all generations.

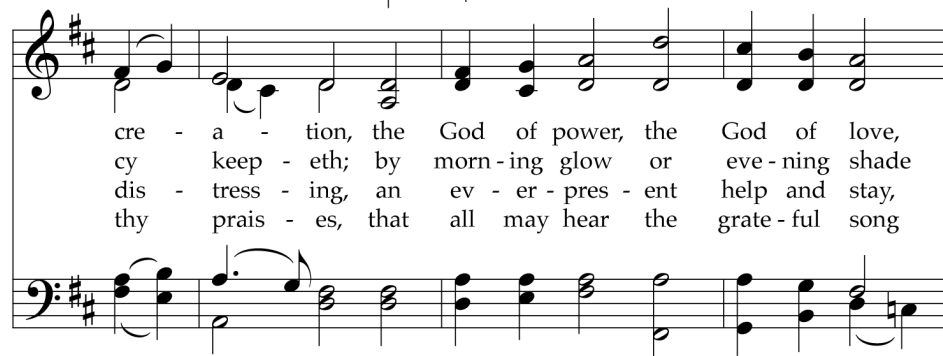
People: Let us praise the Lord!

✦ HYMN

645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above



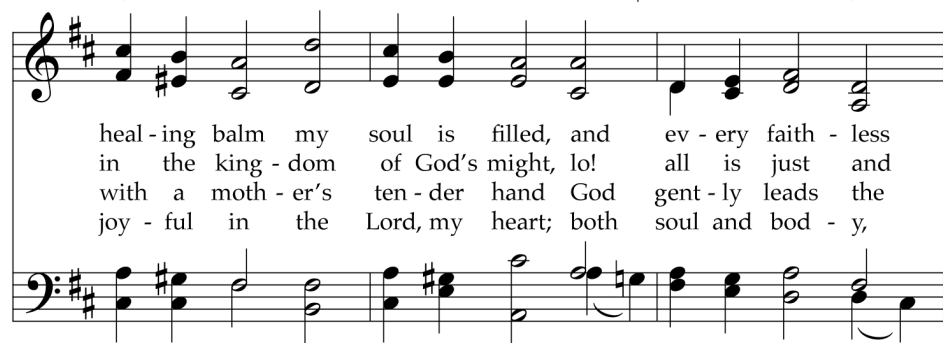
1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
4 Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud



cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song



the God of our sal - va - tion. With
God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be



heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,



mur - mur stilled:
all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
cho - sen band:
take your part:

✦ **CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

Leader: To open our hearts to God is to risk vulnerability, judgment, and condemnation, both as individuals and as a community of faith. But throughout the Scriptures, again and again and again, we learn that God is merciful and just, slow to anger, and eager to forgive. Let us then risk our confession--and acknowledge our humanity with courage, honesty, and humility. Let us pray together:

✦ **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(based on a prayer by Thomas Merton)*

Lord God, we have no idea where we are going. We do not see the road ahead of us. We cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do we really know ourselves; and the fact that we think we are following your will does not mean that we are actually doing so. But we believe that the desire to please You does, in fact, please You. Open our hearts more and more, that we might have that desire in all that we are doing. For we know that if we do, You will lead us by the right road although we may know nothing about it. Help us, therefore, God of Love, to trust You always, empowering us to release our fear, including when we may seem to be lost and even when it seems we find ourselves in the shadow of death--for You are always with us, and will never leave us to face any dangers alone. We pray in Christ's holy name...

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

✦ **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Leader: Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith, and the blindness which keeps us from seeing God among us, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees you. Even when you fail to love God, God still loves you. Beloved of God, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

✦ **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #288**

Spirit of the Living God

288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That day Jesus went out of the house and sat down beside the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he climbed into a boat and sat down. The whole crowd was standing on the shore. He said many things to them in parables: "A farmer went out to scatter seed. As he was scattering seed, some fell on the path, and birds came and ate it. Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow. They sprouted immediately because the soil wasn't deep. But when the sun came up, it scorched the plants, and they dried up because they had no roots. Other seed fell among thorny plants. The thorny plants grew and choked them. Other seed fell on good soil and bore fruit, in one case a yield of one hundred to

one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one. Everyone who has ears should pay attention.” “Consider then the parable of the farmer. Whenever people hear the word about the kingdom and don’t understand it, the evil one comes and carries off what was planted in their hearts. This is the seed that was sown on the path. As for the seed that was spread on rocky ground, this refers to people who hear the word and immediately receive it joyfully. Because they have no roots, they last for only a little while. When they experience distress or abuse because of the word, they immediately fall away. As for the seed that was spread among thorny plants, this refers to those who hear the word, but the worries of this life and the false appeal of wealth choke the word, and it bears no fruit. As for what was planted on good soil, this refers to those who hear and understand, and bear fruit and produce—in one case a yield of one hundred to one, in another case a yield of sixty to one, and in another case a yield of thirty to one.”

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to you and to the church.

People: Thanks be to God!

MUSICAL OFFERING

Better is the End

Joseph Larson

MOMENTS WITH THE CHILDREN

Vanna Ortiz

(Children K-5 are then invited to accompany the leader to Children’s Chapel)

SERMON

"The Seeds We Sow"

The Rev. Deb Beloved Church

✠ **HYMN (1x English, 1x Spanish)**

747 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

Enviado soy de Dios

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give, to
En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá pa -

make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.

The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain to
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar un

do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name; that
mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor; me

falls to you and me and all who are made free. Help
ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad. A -

us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.
yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.

JOYS AND CONCERNS** (A Silence)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Connie Hooks

THE LORD'S PRAYER (New Zealand Prayer Book)

Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven. The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING

♠ RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING #398

How ver-y good and pleas-ant when we live in u-ni-ty. It is
like pre-cious oil, like fresh morn-ing dew. We
gath-er here to-geth-er with our hearts and voic-es raised to
God, who's the cen-ter of our u-ni-ty and praise!

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'How ver-y good and pleas-ant when we live in u-ni-ty. It is' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'like pre-cious oil, like fresh morn-ing dew. We' are written below the second staff. The third staff continues the melody with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'gath-er here to-geth-er with our hearts and voic-es raised to' are written below the third staff. The fourth staff concludes the melody with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note C5. The lyrics 'God, who's the cen-ter of our u-ni-ty and praise!' are written below the fourth staff. Chord symbols (F, Bb, C7, Bb7, A, Dm) are placed above the notes in the first three staves.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

543

O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
 2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -
 3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,
 4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

♣BENEDICTION

♣POSTLUDE

♣THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 Vanna Ortiz, Spiritual Care Director/Children
 Jeff Jolly, Music Director
 James Larson, Sexton

The Rev. Seth Finch, Co-Pastor
 Mary Heidel, Communications Director/Youth
 Evan Aguilar, Church Musician
 Anna Sohn, Youth

Jade Kinney, Cadie Cordova, Hadiya Rezaie-Nursery Attendants

Judy Liddell, Sarah Kotchian, Hunter Downs, Jerry Kuyk, Jack Dietz, Tanya Blankinship, Ellen Powell- Parish Visitors