

Sunday Worship – July 12

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty #533 (red hymnal), #250 (green), vs. 1 & 5

1. Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer. Oh, how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace!
5. Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done indeed; may I undisturbed draw near thee while thou dost thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Kids' Sermon

Charlotte Sandeen

Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For 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, ¹¹so 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³Instead 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.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they

were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

Sermon

Pastor Gordon Braatz

As Rain from the Clouds #508 (red hymnal), not in green hymnal, vs. 1, 2 & 3

1. As rain from the clouds will your word come to earth, as snow from the heavens refreshing the land. Then soften our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the dew of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.
2. As grain that is scattered your word has been sown on rocks and on roadways, in good earth and sand. Make fertile our soil that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the seed of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.
3. As rays of the sun shall your word light the world, awaking and warming and healing our land. Then shine in our hearts that the good seed may grow and ripen rich fruit to return to your hand. We praise you, our God, for the light of your word; we thank you, good gard'ner for your tender toil. We bless you, best farmer, for hundredfold yield, for harvest of grace in our once barren soil.

Prayers

Holy Communion

Post Communion Blessing

On What Has Now Been Sown #550 (red hymnal), #261 (green), vs. 1 & 3

1. On what has now been sown your blessing Lord, bestow; the pow'r is yours alone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in grace the harvest raise, and yours alone shall be the praise!
3. Oh, grant that each of us, now met before you here, may meet together thus when you and yours appear, and follow you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!

Benediction

Announcements

Postlude