



Sunday, July 12, 2026

10:00 a.m.



“Of Seeds and Soil”

David Moscrip

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

“Praeludium Op 87, No. 3”

Simon Sechter

Announcements

GATHERING

Song

Psalm 9

Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 119)*

P: God's word brings light.

C: It helps us understand and grow in faith.

P: Jesus says God's word is like seed scattered on the ground.

C: We come ready to receive God's mercy and grace.

P: Come, let us worship the God whose word gives life.

C: Let God's love shine on us, and let our lives bear good fruit. Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

Let the Redeemed

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Compassionate God,

C: 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 of the Holy Spirit your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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

C: Amen

please be seated

WORD

Lesson

Romans 8:1-11

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

Gospel Response

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

David Moscrip

Sermon

"Of Seeds and Soil"

David Moscrip

Hymn

On What Has Now Been Sown

ELW 550

The Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
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, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will
come 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.**

please be seated

Offering

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code
or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



Offering Hymn

“Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil”
(sing twice)

ELW 512

Offering Prayer

P: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church *(the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.)*

Members: Cheryl, Anita, Amy, Sue, Marion, Kelly, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Brian, Jim, Ryan, Wilbur, Laura, Leota, Dennis, Janell, Anna,
Ebby, Richard, Roger, Dale, Mary, Carol

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

Invitation to Communion

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

please be seated.

Distribution

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

SENDING

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Song

Seek First

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Simple Gifts"

arr. Mark Hayes

Silverbox Deliveries July 17 & 18

Please take a moment to see if you are able to help Friday, July 17 or Saturday, July 18 as we prepare and deliver boxes of food for folks in need of assistance on the near northeast side of Indianapolis. Check out your Flocknote to sign up! (if you aren't getting Flocknotes, email leslie.french@kogcarmel.org)

Parking Lot Sealcoating & Striping

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week there will be a LOT going on in the parking lot. If you plan to come in, please take note of where the contractors are working and avoid any area that appears wet. The south and west lots will be done Monday (along with the west side of the driveway). On Tuesday, the primary parking areas near the main door (along with the east side of the driveway) will be done. If you plan to come in Tuesday, you will need to park in the back lot and enter at Door #6 (by the Cross & Crown). Striping will take place on Wednesday. Thanks to Greg and Kim for all their work and planning on this project!

Interested in Membership

We've had a number of people mention an interest in making KOG their church home. Please reach out to Pastor Erik to ask questions as we rev up for a New Member Class late summer or early fall.

Staff Vacation Time

We have some staff summertime vacations the next month. Pastor Erik is out through July 15. Leslie is out July 17 and Neisha is out August 7-14. Just a head's up for your planning purposes.

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

THEME OF THE WEEK: BAPTISMAL GRACE

We are sinners, and God's law helps us see how sin harms our relationship with God and with one another. Yet God does not abandon us to sin and death. In Jesus Christ, God comes among us, bears the weight of human brokenness, and overcomes it through the cross and resurrection. Our righteousness, then, is not our own—not our works or obedience—but Christ's faithfulness, that leads to our risen life. We have an "alien righteousness," a righteousness that comes from outside ourselves as pure gift. This righteousness is given to us in baptism, where our sins are washed away and we are welcomed into the holy family of God. We rejoice this week in this gift of righteousness.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:20-26 Righteousness Born of Baptismal Grace

The righteousness born of baptismal grace is different from righteousness based only on outward appearances. Jesus looks beyond appearances and speaks to the anger, hurt, and broken relationships that can remain within us. His words invite us to repentance and lead us toward reconciliation. Your righteousness, O beloved child of God, is the genuine righteousness of full and free forgiveness in Christ alone. Rejoice in the righteousness of the One who speaks these words. Christ came to fulfill God's will in faithful love, that you would be forgiven, nourished, and declared holy for Christ's sake. Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery: that Word and water thus revive and join us to your Tree of Life. Amen.

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:41-48 Faith-Creating Words

The psalmist teaches us to pray that God's steadfast love, salvation, and word of truth will always remain with us. These gifts are closely connected to our trust in God's Word. Yet even this faith is not something we create for ourselves. The Word of God gives us faith. These words are planted deep within our hearts and minds as we hear Scripture, reflect upon it, rejoice in hearing it proclaimed, and receive the sacraments. Through the Holy Spirit, these same words create and sustain our faith and help us rejoice more deeply in God's promises. Our trust is never perfect in this life, but God continues to meet and renew us. Gracious God, help me always to rejoice in the gift of your Word and to receive it with joy. Amen.

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:3-11 Death, Life, and Baptism

In our baptism we are buried, but we are not alone; we are buried “with Christ,” and this is good news! Jesus has entered the grave and broken the power of death. Christ rises from the tomb and leaves death’s grasp behind. And there you are, joined to Christ! Being buried with Christ means that you will also be raised with Christ. All of this is promised in baptism: the old self is released, the new self is raised, and the joy of eternal life is delivered in the forgiving name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In our baptism we are raised, and we will never be alone. Gracious God, thank you for the gift of my baptism and for joining me to Christ’s death and resurrection. Amen.

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20:1-17 The Good and Perfect Law of God

“The law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good,” writes Paul in Romans 7:12. The psalmist says, “The law of the Lord is perfect” (Ps. 19:7a). We, however, are not perfect, righteous, or holy in ourselves. God’s good and perfect law helps us see this clearly. Thankfully, for us and for our salvation, Jesus lived in complete faithfulness to God and love for humanity. Christ’s righteousness, goodness, and holiness are yours in Holy Baptism. United with Christ and raised to new life, we remember our baptism daily, turning away from sin through repentance and rising to walk in God’s good commandments. We do not obey in order to earn God’s love, but because God has already loved and claimed us. Help me, O Lord, to turn from sin and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 19:16-30 Impossible Righteousness

“With mortals this is impossible, but for God all things are possible.” Many people feel that what Jesus calls impossible can still be achieved through effort, obedience, or religious success. Like the young man, they may try to gain eternal life by keeping the commandments. We may recognize that same desire within ourselves whenever we try to prove our worth or measure our faithfulness against others. None of us can save ourselves through perfect obedience. We trust that God can accomplish what is impossible for us, and so our salvation rests upon Jesus Christ. Christ has entered death, risen again, and given life freely to us. Lord Jesus, thank you for doing for us what we could never do for ourselves. Amen.

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 2:4-10 Saved by Grace to Serve Our Neighbor

“For by grace you have been saved.” Paul repeats this promise so that it may take root in our hearts and minds. Our salvation is a gift from God, apart from our works. We have no part in receiving eternal life. This does not mean, however, that good works are unimportant. We have been created by God not to live only for ourselves, but to serve our neighbors. God has prepared these works for us beforehand and gives us opportunities to do them in our daily vocations. Our service does not earn God’s favor; it grows from the grace we have already received. Lord Jesus, help me serve my neighbor in love through my vocation, and keep me grounded in the grace you freely give. Amen.

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 114 Praise to the LORD

Psalm 114 recalls God’s great act of rescuing the people of Israel from Egypt and providing for them in the wilderness. These wondrous acts of the LORD are so great that even the earth trembles at God’s mighty work. The One who rules over all things makes Judah a sanctuary and Israel God’s dominion. God’s salvation forms the people into “a priestly kingdom and a holy nation” (Ex. 19:6). The first exodus points us toward Christ’s saving work for us. Baptized