

**Order of Worship
for
The Seventh Sunday in Pentecost
July 16, 2023**

**SONG
“Seek First”**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*On this Sunday we gather for worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen!

*The peace of the Lord be with you always!
And also with you!*

**SONG
“Cares Chorus”**

PRAYER

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.

**HYMN
“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”
ELW 769**

READING

Romans 8:1-11

**The lesson is from the letter of Paul to the Romans,
chapter eight, verses one through eleven.**

Paul writes:

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

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Our Gospel reading is from Matthew, chapter thirteen, verses one through nine and eighteen through twenty-three. Matthew writes:

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!"

"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."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dan Forehand

MESSAGE

“Servants Sow Seeds by the Seashore”

Rev. Dan Forehand

Jesus doesn't speak in tongue twisters or try to confuse us, but we pray that the Spirit might open our ears to hear what God has to say. How do we learn to quiet ourselves and see the good soil that is within us and that God is caring for each and every day of our lives?

SONG

“How Great is Our God”

OUR CONFESSION AND GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins together to God, our Creator and Redeemer.

Gracious Lord, we are so grateful that we are loved by You, with an unconditional love. It is in that spirit that we come to You and confess our sins. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have at times neglected Your Word. We ask for Your forgiveness, knowing, because of our faith in You, that we always have it, secure in the grace by which we are saved. Amen.

As a called and ordained minister of Word and Sacrament and by God's authority, I therefore declare to You the forgiveness of Your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ has covered all our sins by His atoning death on the cross; let us therefore be inspired by Christ to do God's will by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

OFFERING

Your offerings are more than just money to keep the lights turned on. Your gifts help to sustain and expand all of our ministries here at King of Glory, including those which provide direct assistance to those in our community who are in need. We are grateful for all of the gifts we receive, and we strive to be good stewards of the resources you provide to us.

**If you wish to give online, you can [use our app](#)
Or, go to our website at <https://kogcarmel.org/give>**

HYMN

“We Are an Offering”

ELW 692

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

During this time, we pray for all those who need God's blessings, and praise Him for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

During the prayers, there will be a time of silence, when we offer our personal prayers to God.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We prepare to receive the sacraments of Holy Communion, by remembering the words and actions of Jesus during the Last Supper.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

*For those worshipping in-house,
we invite you to come forward if you wish.
If you prefer to take communion at your seat,
you may do so.*

*For those joining us online,
If you are able,
we invite you to take communion where you are,
using any kind of bread and either wine or grape juice
so that you may receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus the Christ.*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

*Now, may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, keep you in His grace and
peace, now and forever. Amen!*

HYMN

“As Rain from the Clouds”

ELW 508

BENEDICTION

*May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord make His face to shine upon
you and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and
give you God’s peace; in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Minister: Rev. Dan Forehand

Organist & Choir Director: Julie Shadinger

Pianist & Sounds of Glory Director: David Moscrip

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