



Sunday, July 19, 2026

10:00 a.m.



“The Growing Season”

Pastor Erik Allen



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Robert Lind

Announcements

GATHERING

Song

You Have Been Given

Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 139)*

P: O Lord, you have searched us and known us; you know our rising and our resting.

C: **You surround us with your presence and hold us in your care.**

P: Where can we go from your Spirit? Where can we flee from your presence?

C: **Even in darkness, you are with us; your light leads us home.**

P: Come, let us worship the God who knows us fully and loves us still.

C: **Search us, guide us, and lead us in your everlasting way. Amen.**

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

C: **And also with you!**

(pass the peace as you feel comfortable)

Song

Wait

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: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

please be seated

WORD

Lesson

Romans 8:12-25

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Gospel Response

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Pastor Erik

Sermon

"The Growing Season"

Pastor Erik

Hymn

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW 693

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 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: Leon, Karla, Joe, Ryan, Brian, Jim, Ryan, Wilbur, Laura, Leota,
Dennis, Janell, Ebby, Richard, Roger, Dale, Mary, Carol

Our most sincere condolences are extended to
David, Kyle & Gabby Baugh on the loss of Kelly after a hard-fought battle
with pancreatic cancer

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

Raise Up an Army

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Pasticcio"

Jean Langlais

Does the Parking Lot Look Amazing or What?

What an improvement to our property! Funds came from a combination of an accrual in the General Fund and funds from our Renew KOG account. Having the extra money for property projects such as the Parking Lot is a true blessing. If you have not given to Renew KOG and would like to, a letter and pledge cards are available at the Hospitality Center. Questions? See Greg Frazier, Susan Kraabel or call Neisha 317-846-1555 (ext 3)

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 reeve up for a New Member Class late summer or early fall.

Lands'End KOG Swag

We think it's time to show our KOG pride! We are working with Lands'End where you can choose from a variety of clothing which will include our KOG logo. Keep an eye out in Flocknote for a step by step process to order online. Donna Frazier is working with the company for them to provide some sample items. I know first hand, it's good quality clothing (I'm still wearing mine from at least 10 years ago!). We also have a discount code so you'll want to make sure to use that. Stay tuned!

Thank You

To everyone who helped pack and deliver food to our Silverbox families on Friday and Saturday, Thank You!!

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

THEME OF THE WEEK: TRUSTING THE LORD OF COMPASSION

Jesus has compassion for the crowd. He knows what every person risked when they left the safety of their homes to be blessed through his life-giving Word. They did not know where they would find bread in such a desolate place, but they also understood that there are treasures greater than earthly loaves. Jesus gives himself, the living bread from heaven. He speaks words of eternal life. Jesus said, “Strive first for the kingdom of God and God’s righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:33). And so Jesus feeds these hungry people with the living bread of God’s promise and also gives them the daily bread that sustains and supports the needs of their bodies.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: Mark 8:1-9 Satisfied With God’s Gifts

“They ate and were satisfied.” The Lord desires that we receive God’s gifts with gratitude. God calls us to rejoice in what we are given in our homes, in our communities, and especially within the Church. Above all, God invites us to rejoice in the One from whom every good gift flows. The temptation is always to seek lasting satisfaction in the gifts themselves rather than in the God who gives them. The gifts, though good, are not God. They come from God, and they bear witness to the generosity and compassion of their giver. Our trust and contentment rest not in what we possess but in the God who provides, sustains, and shares abundant life with all creation. *Gracious God, thank you for your many gifts. Teach us to receive them with gratitude and share them freely. Amen.*

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:49-56 Promises That Give Life

When we endure suffering, where do we turn? We turn with the psalmist, who teaches us to pray: “This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life.” Affliction and suffering can pull us toward despair and doubt. Sin and the powers that oppose God can use these experiences to deepen our anguish, especially when our consciences trouble us. Yet the promise of the Lord—that in Christ we are forgiven, that death will not have the final word, and that we will share in Christ’s resurrection—gives us life both now and forever. This promise guards us when the world and our own brokenness threaten to overwhelm us. It sets us firmly within the steadfast love of God. *Lord, thank you for giving us the words of eternal life. Hold us securely in your promises. Amen.*

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: Romans 6:19-23 Wages and Gifts

We read in Luther's explanation of the first article of the Creed in the Small Catechism that God gives us all that we need "out of pure, Fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine" If our relationship with God depended upon what we earned or deserved, none of us could save ourselves or claim even a breath of fresh air or a morsel of food. For "the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Sin brings death and separation, but God responds with mercy. God gives us air and food, shelter and community, and all that supports this earthly life. Even more, God gives the greatest gift: the forgiveness and new life in Christ, freely offered through grace. Lord Jesus, I cannot earn your love or forgiveness. *By your Spirit, help me trust your promises and receive with gratitude the life you freely give. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:23-25 Words That Bless God

What we say often reflects what is happening within us. When we can speak only of our pain, scarcity, anger, or shame, our words may reveal how deeply our suffering has shaped the way we see ourselves and the lives God has given us. At times, comparison and resentment may also draw us away from trusting God's care for ourselves and our neighbors. We should acknowledge suffering honestly when it comes. God does not ask us to deny our grief or remain silent about injustice. Yet neither should we overlook how richly we have been blessed in Christ. For Christ's sake, God fills our mouths with words of mercy poured out in baptism, proclaimed in forgiveness, and given in the meal of Christ's body and blood. *"Restore my weary soul, O Lord, and fill me again with your hope." Amen.*

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:24-31 Fearing the Right One

"Fear is the mind-killer." So the saying goes. Fear, when it takes control, can diminish not only the mind but also our heart and spirit. That is why Jesus calls us away from being ruled by fear. None of these deserves our ultimate allegiance. Instead, Jesus directs us toward reverence for God, the One who alone holds our lives and our future. Moreover, this understanding leads not to terror but to a wonderful proclamation: "Do not be afraid." Christ has not come to destroy us. The God whom we fear and revere is also the God whom we are invited to love and trust above all things. Christ comes so that we may have abundant and eternal life and be freed from the powers that hold us captive. *Lord, turn our fear into reverence, our anxiety into trust, and our hearts toward your steadfast love. Amen.*

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: Acts 14:8-23 Power or Weakness?

The contrast is clear: a man unable to walk is healed through a powerful sign of God's mercy, and a few verses later Paul is stoned, dragged out of the city, and left for dead. Is the life of faith, then, a life of power or weakness, of glorious signs or patient suffering? The answer is both. Christians may trust the powerful work of God through the Word and sacraments, where forgiveness is proclaimed, faith is nourished, and grace is given. We may trust that God hears our prayers and may answer them in surprising and unmistakable ways. Nevertheless, the path of discipleship also passes through hardship, and suffering. God's power is not always revealed by removing our trials. Sometimes it is made known through the grace that sustains us within them. Whatever comes, the risen Christ is with us, as Christ was with Paul, to uphold, renew, and save. *Lord Jesus, remain with us in times of trial and in times of joy. Amen.*

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125 Mount Zion Cannot Be Moved

The psalm may be understood in this way: Mount Zion is the community of God's people across the ages. It is the people whom God gathers, forgives, and makes righteous through the promise of salvation. On this holy mountain there is stability, and steadfast love from God. God's Word builds its walls. God's promises establish the gates through which grace flows and against which the powers of sin and death cannot prevail. Fear and wickedness do not have the final word over God's people. Their authority is broken by the cross and resurrection of Jesus. Christ reigns here, not through coercion, but through forgiveness, life, mercy, and salvation. By grace, Christ forms us into a people whose hearts seek God! *Give peace to your people, O Lord, and keep us steadfast in the gracious reign of your Son. Amen.*