



ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
LE SUEUR, MINNESOTA

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF
PENTECOST

JULY 7, 2024

9:00 AM

“The spirit of liberty is the spirit of Him who, nearly two thousand years ago, taught humanity that lesson it has never learned, but has never quite forgotten: that there is a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest.”

*Learned Hand
American scholar and jurist*

Matthew 25:40
"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING REFLECTION

Allegiance

Shift Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 67

Let the peoples of the earth praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for God will judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples of the earth praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. let all the ends of the earth praise God.

+HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

NCH 565

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most Holy and Gracious God - You are the wind that brings new life and the breath that sustains us. You inspire the words we hear and speak and sing. And yet we confess that at times our minds and hearts have gone cold. We find ourselves too

preoccupied with our own plans and fears. We are more concerned with proving ourselves right than we are with living rightly. And we have drifted away.

Lord God, sweep away the dullness of our minds that we may know you more fully. Clear our hearts of those things that clutter them that we may love Jesus more deeply and our neighbors more completely. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

+SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 122

Reader: Sue Felmlee

May God add a blessing to the reading and hearing of the word.

Amen.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:34-40

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

I Kings 21:1-10, 15-20

MESSAGE

It Wasn't About Zucchini

Pastor Jan Crissinger

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

+RESPONSE

Accept, O Lord, The Gifts We Bring

Insert

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All who know Jesus Christ to be their Savior are welcome at the Table.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You *are* holy, O God, and blessed is your son Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom You sent to save us. He came with healing in His touch and yet was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in His voice, and was mocked as one despised. He came with peace in His heart and met with violence and death. By Your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb, and at His command the gates of hell were opened. To the amazement and joy of His followers, Jesus greeted them on the third day.

Holy One: as Your risen Son Jesus was made known to the disciples in the breaking of bread, be revealed to us this day. We praise You for His living presence among us today and therefore, with the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth we worship You and sing with joy:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.**

Lord, send Your Holy Spirit, that we and Your entire church may be called out and made whole through the receiving of the bread and cup. Grant that all who share the communion of the body and blood of Your Son may be united as one in Him. May we all remain faithful in love and hope until we feast with your saints at table with Christ in heaven.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION
THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMNS

**Let Us Break Bread Together
One Bread, One Body**

**NCH 330
Insert**

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, for the bread and the cup, and for these people around us, we rededicate ourselves to You.

Let us depart from this place as changed people, because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same.

Restore to us our vision and passion for serving You. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us.

So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of the earth and citizens of heaven. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+BENEDICTION

+HYMN

Lead On, Eternal Sovereign

NCH 573

+SENDING FORTH

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+POSTLUDE
