

7th Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

Prelude *Overture in the French Style, BWV 831: Overture* J.S. Bach

Greeting and Announcements **Opening Sentences**

***Doxology** - all to sing No. 592

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Praise**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The windows of heaven are open;

People: let us receive God's abundance.

Leader: Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn** "[Open My Eyes, That I May See](#)"

***Call to Confession**

Leader: As much as we try not to stray: we do. As much as we try to follow God's word: we don't. As we continue on this journey, let us seek God's forgiveness.

***Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

O God, we are quick to say, "We didn't know." "We didn't mean to." "We didn't expect that to happen." But we have not tended the soil of our lives. We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from the experience of others. We let it be riddled with thorns by succumbing to our own prejudices. Life-giving God, Help us to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged, enable us to learn, so that your word will take root and bear good fruit in our lives.

A Time of Silent Prayer

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: There is no condemnation for us: God has forgiven us that we might live according to the Spirit. The Spirit of God dwells within us. This is good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***Response of Praise**-all to sing "Gloria Patri" No. 579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

***We Share God's Peace**

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

(You are invited to share God's peace as you greet those around you.)

Special Music *Overture in the French Style, BWV 831: Passepied I & II* J.S. Bach

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading [Genesis 25:19-34](#) (NRSV)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading [Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23](#) (NRSV)

Sermon "**Seed to Sow**" The Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
the Lord granted

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People...The Lord's Prayer ('debtors' and debtors')

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Sending Hymn** "[God of Grace and God of Glory](#)"

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Overture in the French Style, BWV 831: Gavotte I & II* J.S. Bach

(We invite you to remain seated through the Postlude.)

***Indicates that those who are able may stand.**

Lectionary readings for July 19, 2026

Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43