

# **Central Lutheran Church**

**Seventh Sunday After Pentecost  
July 16, 2023**

**Rev. Veronika Czutor  
Pastor**

# Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

**God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.**

*Please turn off your cell phone.*

*This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.*

*Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.*

**BELL PEAL (10:30 am)**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION:** Meditation on "Beautiful Savior" Leslie Cradlaugh

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have  
squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of  
Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✚ Jesus  
Christ.

**Amen.**

## All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and  
 2 Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and  
 3 Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the  
 4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor  
 grain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear sis-ter wa-ter, use-ful,  
 thron: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear moth-er earth, so rich in  
 grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:  
 clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-  
 care, praise God in col-ors bright and rare:  
 fears; still make your song a-mid the tears:



lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
 waiting to hush our final breath:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
 fair is the night that leads us home.  
 Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
 and worship God with humble heart:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
 Alleluia.

## GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

# NOW THE FEAST

## Now the Feast and Celebration

*Refrain*



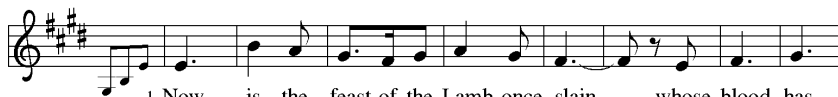
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

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.**

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:10-13

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

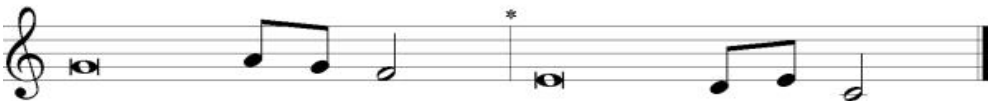
<sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

L Word of God, Word of Life

**C Thanks be to God**

## PSALM 65:9-13

*Sung responsively.*



<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is | full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide | for the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.**

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year | with your goodness,  
and your paths over- | flow with plenty.

<sup>12</sup>**May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,  
and the hills be | clothed with joy.**

<sup>13</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- | selves

with grain;  
let them shout for | joy and sing.

## SECOND LESSON: Romans 7:1-11

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>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, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L Word of God, Word of Life

C Thanks be to God

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Veronika



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord

## **READING OF THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 1-9,18-23**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!”

<sup>18</sup>“Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>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.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you O Christ

## **SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**Pastor Veronika**

## The Word of God Is Source and Seed



1 The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to  
 2 The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to  
 3 The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to



die and sprout and grow. So make your dark earth  
 heal and wake and save. So let the Spir - it  
 sing, to laugh and cry. So dare to be as



wel - come warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.  
 touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.  
 Je - sus was, who came to live and love and die.

*Refrain*

*Gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no, gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no,*  
 In the Lord let us re - joice, in the Lord let us re - joice,



*gau - de - a - mus Do* - *mi - no!*  
 in the Lord let us re - joice!



## **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**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people  
according to their needs.

*Please sit or kneel for prayer.*

*The response to each spoken petition is:*

P Lord, in your mercy

**C Hear our prayer.**

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Mary** Haynie, **Elaine** Hetzer, **Irisz** Gonda, and  
**Dawn** Gray.

*The prayers conclude:*

P ...through your son Jesus Christ, our Lord

**C Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with  
one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

## **THE OFFERING**

*We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your  
offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving  
through **Vanco**, **PayPal**, or **Givelify** (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our  
office.*

## MUSICAL OFFERING: *As the Grains of Wheat*

*All stand to sing.*

### Refrain

*Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

### Verses



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. God of field and forest, sea and sky,

**C you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed...

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All people are called to Christ's table.

Come, eat what is good.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## COMMUNION

*As you come forward for the Sacrament, please sanitize your hands with the sanitizer found on the first pew. Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. You may kneel or stand. The host will be dipped in the chalice and placed in your hand. If you prefer to receive only the host, please tell the ministers. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please fold your arms in front of your chest. At this time there is no consecrated grape juice.*

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD

*Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.*



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*Meditative organ music is played as the congregation receives the Holy Communion.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Let us pray, generous God,

**C** We thank you for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.

**Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,**

**through the one who is our dearest treasure,**

**Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

P The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

ELW 550

### On What Has Now Been Sown



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the  
2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -  
3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in  
cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,  
meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!  
Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.  
you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

## **Acknowledgments:**

Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn: *All Creatures, Worship God Most High!*

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

Hymn of the Day: *The Word of God is Source and Seed*

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: GAUDEAMUS DOMINO, David Hurd, b. 1950

Text © 1983, 1993 Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, MN, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Musical Offering: *As the Grains of Wheat*

Text and Music: Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications

*Holy*

Text and Music: Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications

*Lamb of God*

Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

Sending Hymn: *On What Has Now Been Sown*

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.

Music: DARWALL'S 148<sup>TH</sup>, John Darwall, 1731-1789

### **Central Lutheran Church**

God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.



**GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.**

**Pastor: The Rev. Veronika Czutor**

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**Administrative Assistant: Rachel Brown**

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CentralLutheran.org

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!**

**Pr. Veronika Out of Office:** Pastor Veronika will be out of the office from July 17 - 26. If you need emergency pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Kenny Dickson from King of Glory. Office: (972) 661-9435 extension 536  
Email: kdickson@kingofglory.com

**Serving in Worship today:** Ushers: Mark Buie and Judy Koble, and Lector: Paul Chambers

**Ushers & Lectors needed:** Please sign up on the bulletin board in the education building.

**Council Meeting:** The council meeting is **today, right after the service**. All are welcome.

**Back-to-School Bash:** During our back-to-school bash we give out hundreds of backpacks filled with the required DISD school supplies. We need volunteers to help make this event a success. We have a Volunteer Sign-Up Genius page and there is a "Count me in" volunteer sheet in the back of the church. **We will fill backpacks for about 30 minutes after church next Sunday, July 23. We will bless the filled bags and any other school supplies people want to be blessed on Sunday, July 30. The bash itself is on Saturday, August 5 from 8-11 am.** Prayerfully consider where you can be part of this great community event! Contact Alesia Pearson with questions (214-215-7670; alesia-r-pearson@swbell.net). To see which supplies we are looking for and for more information on how to help go to our website: <https://bit.ly/B2SBCLC>.

Thank you to everyone who has provided items so far! Our current areas of biggest need include:

- #2 pencils,
- 12-count boxes of colored pencils,
- 10-count package of washable markers,
- glue sticks,
- package of 4 assorted colors highlighters,
- large pink erasers,
- 4oz size play-doh (either individual or 4-pack bundles),
- wide-ruled notebook paper
- spirals & composition notebooks.



Scan this QR code (or go to [linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch](http://linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch)) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or donate online.

**Our Prayer List:** Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email ([central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com](mailto:central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com)) or via phone (214-327-2222).

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT**

**For healing**

Ruth Steiner  
Charlotte Breedlove  
Dawn Gray  
Joe Rozier  
Irisz Gonda  
Selena Dybdahl

**Relationship**

Sister of Susan and Judy  
Neighbor of Harold Jones  
Bethany CDC Teacher  
Friend of Anne Monson  
Friend of Pastor Veronika  
Sister of Mary Glenn

**Church Members**

Mary Haynie  
Don Smith  
Mario Montejo  
Kris McDowell  
Patsy Schoen  
Yuvonne Muirhead  
Elaine Hetzer

**Those Who Mourn**

The family and friends of Jan Hare