

St. Johns Lutheran Church

The Kingdom of God



It Grows Up and Becomes
Larger than all the Garden
Plants

AS WE GATHER

Many of the parables of Jesus have to do with agriculture—from the parable of the sower to this short description of the Kingdom like a mustard seed. There are so many little details with application to our lives, but today the focus is on the seed and the mystery of how it grows. What brings the seed from planting to harvest is the providence of God and His goodness and power. This is both the object of our interest and the domain of faith that trusts what the eye does not see and the mind does not comprehend. At the end of it all is the harvest; God brings into His storehouse all the fruits of His seed planted in good soil. The blissful ignorance we have of this process should not deprive us of the joy of its outcome.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME GUESTS

We're glad you are here! Make it a point to introduce yourself to the pastor. *(Please keep your distance though)* Please take time to fill out an attendance card and drop it in the basket during the offering. . Our service today includes the celebration of God's presence, as He comes in the true body and blood of Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Any who are not yet instructed or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from receiving the sacrament until they have spoken with the pastor.

PREPARATION

HYMN Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid *LSB 500*

**Creator Spirit, by whose aid
The world's foundations first were laid,
Come, visit ev'ry humble mind;
Come, pour Your joys on humankind;**

**From sin and sorrow set us free;
May we Your living temples be.**

**O Source of uncreated light,
The bearer of God's gracious might,
Thrice holy fount, thrice holy fire,
Our hearts with heav'nly love inspire;
Your sacred, healing message bring
To sanctify us as we sing.**

**Giver of grace, descend from high;
Your sev'nfold gifts to us supply;
Help us eternal truths receive
And practice all that we believe;
Give us Yourself that we may see
The glory of the Trinity.**

Stand

**Immortal honor, endless fame
Attend the almighty Father's name;
The Savior-Son be glorified,
Who for all humankind has died;
To You, O Paraclete, we raise
Unending songs of thanks and praise.**

INVOCATION

**In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 1:5–6*

**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the
congregation of the righteous;
for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the
wicked will perish.**

Silence for self-examination.

**Holy and gracious God,
I confess that I have sinned against You, in thought, word, and deed,
by what I have done, and by what I have not done.**

Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, my Savior, I ask forgiveness and pray You to deliver and restore me by Your mercy. Amen.

KYRIE - II (LORD, HAVE MERCY) LSB 944

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and given to us His only Son to suffer and die for our salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

WORD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS... All Glory Be to God on High LSB 947

All glory be to God on high

And thanks for all His favor;

No harm can touch or terrify

A child of God forever.

God shows His good and gracious will

And grants His peace, the world to fill

All strife at last has ended.

We praise and laud and worship You;

We give You thanks forever,

O Father, for Your rule is true

And just and changes never.

With boundless pow'r, Your mighty reign

Fulfills whatever You ordain.

Lord, grant us ev'ry blessing!

**O Jesus Christ, the only Son
Begotten of the Father,
Your saving death has made us one
With God and with each other.
O Lamb of God, to You on high
In our distress we sinners cry,
Have mercy on us, amen!**

**O Holy Spirit, our delight
And source of consolation,
Protect us from the devil's might
Through Jesus, our salvation,
Who by His death upon a tree
Has rescued us from misery:
To this we hold forever.**

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

MEMORIZED WORD

Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:30-31

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may

bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

**Great is the Lord, and greatly * to be praised,
and his greatness is un * searchable.
On your wondrous works, I will * meditate,
and I will declare your * greatness.**

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 5:1–17*

¹We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live

for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

VERSE *2 Peter 3:18a*

Alleluia. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Alleluia.

HYMN O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth *LSB 834*

**O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth,
Thy living finger never wrote
That life should be an aimless mote,
A death ward drift from futile birth.
Thy Word meant life triumphant hurled
In splendor through Thy broken world.
Since light awoke and life began,
Thou hast desired Thy life for man.**

**Our fatal will to equal Thee,
Our rebel will wrought death and night.
We seized and used in prideful spite
Thy wondrous gift of liberty.
We housed us in this house of doom,
Where death had royal scope and room,
Until Thy servant, Prince of Peace,
Breached all its walls for our release.**

**Thou camest to our hall of death,
O Christ, to breathe our poisoned air,
To drink for us the dark despair
That strangled our reluctant breath.**

**How beautiful the feet that trod
The road that leads us back to God!
How beautiful the feet that ran
To bring the great good news to man!**

Stand

**O Spirit, who didst once restore
Thy Church that it might be again
The bringer of good news to men,
Breathe on thy cloven Church once more,
That in these gray and latter days
There may be those whose life is praise,
Each life a high doxology
To Father, Son, and unto Thee.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 4:26–34*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED (WE ALL BELIEVE IN ONE TRUE GOD) LSB 953

**We all believe in one true God,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,**

**Ever-present help in need,
Praised by all the heav'nly host;
All He made His love enfolds,
All creation He upholds.**

**We all believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Mary's son,
Who descended from His throne
And for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we
Rescued from all misery.**

**We all confess the Holy Ghost,
Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us
In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessed, holy Trinity,
Praise forever be to Thee!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray:

Give patience to Your people, that we trust in Your Word and promise when eyes do not see Your hand at work; and when hearts are tempted to anxiety and fear, grant that we know the fullness of Your peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Make us to be good soil so that the seed of Your Word planted in us may grow, flourish, and bear the good fruit You desire. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give to our president, Congress, and all leaders the wisdom to govern according to Your Word and commands. Bring the nations to peace, and equip us to be good and responsible citizens. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give wisdom and discernment to Your people, that we not give in to temptation nor grow weary of trusting Your Word and serving in willing obedience to Your commands, but delight in fulfilling our baptismal calling wherever we are. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Bless those who teach Your Word, that the Holy Spirit guide our study, strengthen our faith, and direct us in making the good confession before the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give relief to the suffering, healing to the sick, peace to the troubled, and comfort to those who grieve, [*especially . . . , and those we name in our hearts . . .*], and bless them with patience and endurance until You deliver them from their trials. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us to be good stewards of Your creation, to share what You have supplied with those in need, and to support the work of Your Church in her mission here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Help us to pray with confident hearts, trusting that You will provide for us all things needful and deliver us from all things harmful, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 216

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He

manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His Testament:

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T BE WITH US

Many Lord, desire to be here at your altar today, but since they cannot at this time receive You sacramentally, Grant them Your Holy Spirit and come into their hearts through your Holy Word and promises so that they are assured of your personal embrace and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Never permit them to doubt being separated from You. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ on the cross.

Amen.

SANCTUS *Isaiah, Mighty Seer in Days of Old*

LSB 960

**Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old,
The Lord of all in spirit did behold
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,
With robes that filled the temple courts with light.
Above the throne were flaming seraphim;
Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.
With two they veiled their faces as was right,
With two they humbly hid their feet from sight,
And with the other two a loft they soared;
One to the other called and praised the Lord:**

**“Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!’
His glory fills the heavens and the earth!”
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy* *LSB 434*

**Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, 0 Jesus! O, Jesus!**

**Lamb of God, pure and holy.
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, 0 Jesus! O, Jesus!**

**Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,**

**Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O, Jesus!**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast” *LSB 577*
I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table *LSB 618*

POST COMMUNION HYMN

In Peace and Joy I Now Depart *LSB 938*

**In peace and joy I now depart
Since God so wills it.
Serene and confident my heart;
Stillness fills it.
For the Lord has promised me
That death is but a slumber.**

**Christ Jesus brought this gift to me,
My faithful Savior,
Whom You have made my eyes to see
By Your favor.
Now I know He is my life,
My friend when I am dying.**

**You sent the people of the earth
Their great salvation;
Your invitation summons forth
Ev'ry nation
By Your holy, precious Word,
In ev'ry place resounding.**

**Christ is the hope and saving light
Of those in blindness;
He guides and comforts those in night
By His kindness.
For Your people Israel
In Him find joy and glory.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Let us pray.

Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this Holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight *LSB 720*

**We walk by faith and not by sight,
No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe Him near.**

**We may not touch His hands and side,
Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice
And cry "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
And may our faith abound
To call on You when You are near
And seek where You are found.**

**For You, O resurrected Lord,
Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
Beneath the bread and wine.**

**Lord, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light**

**We may behold You as You are,
With full and endless sight.**

Preacher	Pastor Michael Tanney
Liturgist	Pastor Michael Tanney
Elders	Al Bohannon & Earl Welch
Organist	Suzanne Manelli
Ushers	Don Osiek, Ben Thomas, William Gebhart, and Roger Schmidt
Children's Message	Pastor Michael Tanney
Acolytes	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Greeter	Roger Schmidt
Worship Screen	Tra-Mi and Thao-Vy
Bible Class	Pastor Michael Tanney

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Announcements

Saved to Share Called to Care

Our Response to God's Love Last Week

Attendance Sunday: 36

Nepali Attendance: 37

Offering: \$2,371.00

ATTENTION: PLEASE TAKE A HYMNAL from the rack nearest to you and leave it on the pew where you are sitting prior to leaving the sanctuary today. This will enable us to be more efficient when we sanitize the pews this week. Thank you.

CHURCH PICNIC We will be having our Church picnic next week, on June 20th, 2021 at the Old Carriage in Tower Grove Park, starting at 10:00am. Please sign up in the back and pick up a map.

THE FLOWERS you see on the altar are in honor of Bob and Maureen's 60th wedding anniversary.

Prayers

Special Prayer Petitions – **Carmen Hobson** who is struggling physically; **Ray** for thanks as he goes through treatment; **Joan** as she struggles with her sight; **Steve Bain** for healing and recovery; **For** those infected by the corona virus for quick healing and recovery. **For** those seeking new employment opportunities; **Field-workers** and **Vicars** for their class work; **Nepali & African Congregation** blessings; **Food Pantry & ESL** for blessings on what they do.

Shut Ins – Jeanette Creamer, Carmen Hobson, Bobbie Kepford, Dennis Solomon, Jerry Schmaltz, Carol Carr

Opportunities to Love and Serve Christ this Week

June 13-June 20

Sunday	9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study 10:30am Nepalese Worship 12:30pm African Worship
Monday	8am-12pm Office Open
Tuesday	8am-12pm Office Open 6pm Seminary Students
Wednesday	8am-12pm Office Open 6:30pm ESL 6:30pm NT Class
Thursday	8am-12pm Office Open 6:30pm Confirmation
Friday	8am-12pm Office Open 8am Bible Study
Saturday	8:30am Food Pantry 1:00pm Vicar Class
Next Sunday	10:00am Worship in the park (with the picnic following) 10:30am Nepalese Worship 12:30pm African Worship