

Vasa Lutheran Church

7th Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor Tim Seitz

Accompanist-Nick Kees

Sunday, July, 12th 2026

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

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.

L: 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 Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

OPEN NOW, THE GATES OF BEAUTY

ELW 533

GREETING: 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

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PRAYER OF THE DAY: 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.
Amen.

PSALM 65: 1-13

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**2 To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

3 Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

**4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**6 You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

7 You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;

you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

9 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.

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

11 You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**12 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

13 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

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

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

L: Word of God, word of life | **C: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN **FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION** **ELW 679**

SERMON

HYMN **DAY BY DAY** **ELW 790**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION : Each petition will end with the words: God of Grace. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

LORD'S PRAYER

Give us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

SENDING HYMN

ON WHAT HAS BEEN SOWN

ELW 550

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✠ one God,

bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

Parish Pulse:

July 5

Participating in Worship: 43

+ 61 Live Streams

Total Offerings:

July 5

\$730.50



Wendy Anderson, Jay
Mikaelsen, Scott
Sorenson, Lorrie
Samuelson, Lynda
Rosener, Terri Fredin,
Connor Michalicek
(Rosann Pearson's
grandson), Jake
Jacobson, Rachel Harper
(Barry Skog's Niece)

Worship Assistants Today

July 12

Usher: Marvin Fredrickson

Lector: Jeannette Anderson

Hospitality: Marcia Featherstone

Worship Assistants Next Week

July 19

Usher: Duane Hanson

Lector: Barry Skog

Hospitality: Marilyn Hanson

Communion Asst.: *Volunteer Needed*

MUSIC FOR JULY 12, 2026

OPEN NOW, THE GATES OF BEAUTY

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.

Music: Martin Luther, 1483–1546

CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD

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FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION

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DAY BY DAY

Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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ON WHAT HAS BEEN SOWN

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Welch, MN 55089**

**Wednesday, July 15, 2026
1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

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