

Black Forest Lutheran Church

12455 Black Forest Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80908
Church Office - 495-2221 Tues. – Thur. 9:00-2:00p / Fri. 9:00-12:00p
Ken Hohag, Pastor
Andrew Koetsier, Youth and Family Director
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost / July 16, 2023

The order of worship is the white Setting 4 booklet in the **black** Worship book.
The hymns are listed as **black**, liturgy pages as p.

Please turn off your cellphone.

GATHERING

Prelude and Announcements
*Brief Order of Confession p. 3
Gathering Song *Kyrie Eleison (Lord Have Mercy)* **black 67**
Greeting/Kyrie p. 3
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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord/ Amen.

WORD

Children's Sermon Andrew Koetsier
First Reading Isaiah 55:10-13
Second Reading Romans 8:1-11
Celtic Alleluia *Al-le-lu-ia 4x*
Gospel Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 Skit
Response: **Thanks be to God**
Sermon The Sower and the Soils Pastor Ken
*Hymn of the Day *Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil* **bulletin**
Apostles' Creed p. 7
Prayers of Intercession Response: **Hear our prayer**
Sharing of the Peace

MEAL

Offering *As the Grains of Wheat* **bulletin**
*Offering Prayer
Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Great Thanksgiving p. 9
Lord's Prayer p. 10
Lamb of God **11**
Distribution Hymns **50, 16, 13, 14**
*Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Benediction
Sending Song *Canticle of the Sun (Sing for...)* v. 1, 3, 5 **black 48**
Dismissal Response: **Thanks be to God**
Postlude

*Congregation please stand.

Visitors and Members—Please sign our blue Friendship Book and pass it down the row. A nursery for infants & toddlers is inside through the narthex double doors. A nursing chair with a retractable privacy screen for mothers is available in the nursery.

Holy Communion Instructions—All baptized Christians are invited to the Lord's table. Grape juice is available in the pre-filled glasses for those who cannot drink wine. Gluten-free bread is also available.

**Our mission is to glorify God through
worship, prayer, education, and service as
ambassadors of Christ.**

<u>Serving Today</u>	
9:00a	
Altar Guild	Roxie Larson / Vonda Dowdy
Assistants	Karen Gourley / Steve Lord
Greeter	Chris Cooper
Nursery Attendants	Jessica Worrell / Jenna Yonce
Keyboard	Alexandra Cullen
Reader	Nancy Lord
Recorder	Pat Turechek
Sound	Patrick Turechek
Uploader	George Cooper
Ushers	Colin & Connie Schmeisser

Flowers are given today by the Kerstein's to the Glory of God.

Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow, and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain
As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

1. As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**
2. Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

First Reading - Isaiah 55:10-13

55 ¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it sprout and grow, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³Instead 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.

Second Reading - Romans 8:1-11

8 ¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For 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, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For 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. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For 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, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But 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. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If 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.

Gospel - Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

13 ¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!'

¹⁸'Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When 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. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet 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. ²²As 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. ²³But 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.'