

The parable of the **SOWER**



MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023 • 10:00 AM
ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
5th Sunday after Pentecost | July 2, 2023 | 10:00 am Worship

*Stand as you are able

PRELUDE

Janelle Schauer

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

{Silence for reflection & self-examination}

P Merciful God,

C **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.**

P Righteous God,

C **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

Gather Us In

ELW #532, verses 1, 3 & 4

**Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.**

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away—
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

***APOSTOLIC GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.

P Let us pray.

C 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.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Patty Mesenbring

CHILDREN'S TIME

Following the Children's Sermon, Children's Time is an opportunity for young children to have a bible story, music or activity time with our Children's Ministry Director, Patty Mesenbring, during the sermon. Children will return to their families after the sermon.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW #512

**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.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

C **Glory to you, O Lord.** *(spoken)*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(spoken)*

SERMON

Pastor Ryan Brodin

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

ELW #679, all verses

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.

**For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.

**In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

**For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

(The pastors and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord with Peace be with you)

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

During the offering time, children are invited to bring forward an offering of dollar bills and loose change to the globe in the front of the church. All the offerings received in the globe go to support our Companion Congregation in Makungu, Tanzania. Adults are encouraged to give their spare change to the children around them to be brought forward.

OFFERTORY

Janelle Schauer

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Create in Me

ELW 186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C God of field and forest, sea and sky, 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.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg.145

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All Children of God are welcomed for Communion. As you come forward, please kneel at the railing. There you will receive a wafer. You will also be offered grape juice and/or wine (the wine red, the grape juice is white).

- *Gluten free wafers are available upon request*

- *If you prefer to remain in your seat to receive communion, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you*
- *Children are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing*

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Janelle Schauer

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P We thank you, generous God, 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.

C Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

ELW #547, all verses

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

**The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.**

**Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.**

**With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.**

**Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

***SENDING**

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

Janelle Schauer

† † †

Thank you to all who made worship possible today!

GREETERS:

COMMUNION SERVERS:

MUSIC LEADER:

USHERS: Larry Thill, Curt Johnson, Kaethe Bisek, Bob Wirtz and Debby Nelson

A/V CREW: Katrina Streeter & Brouillard Family



WELCOME

Living in **God's love**, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
is a **welcoming** and **caring** family
that **nurtures** spiritual growth, **shares** our Christian faith,
and **serves** all creation.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

SUNDAY 07/16 Indoor worship with Holy Communion // 10am Family Ministry Splash Pad Event & Picnic // Noon—2pm (MV Splash Pad)	
MONDAY 07/17	THURSDAY 07/20 Women's Bible study // 10am
TUESDAY 07/18 Quilting // 9am Staff meeting // 10am Council meeting // 6:30pm	FRIDAY 07/21 OFFICE CLOSED
WEDNESDAY 07/19 Cub Foods baked goods delivery // 9:45am MS/HS Youth Bike Ride to Blue Sun // 6:30pm	SATURDAY 07/22
SUNDAY 07/23 Outdoor worship // 10am Root beer float fellowship // following worship	

ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS Monday—Thursday: 9am—4pm; Friday CLOSED

UPCOMING EVENTS

FAMILY MINISTRY EVENT—MV SPLASH PAD!

TODAY! SUNDAY, JULY 16 // NOON—2PM

Invite your friends and neighbors and join us at the Mounds View Splash Pad today from noon—2pm! We've rented a pavilion nearby and will be firing up a grill with hot dogs and other yummy picnic-type foods. Come enjoy some summer fun!

WEDNESDAY YOUTH ACTIVITIES//6:30-8PM

You're invited to join Alex and Josh for a summer of fun! Invite a friend and come have a great time! Note: All outdoor activities are 'weather permitting' so **be sure to sign up for Remind to get notified about last minute changes in plan! Text: 8211redoak To: 81010**

- July 19: Bike ride to Blue Sun Soda Shop
- July 26: Swimming at Long Lake Beach
- August 2 & 9: No activity (El Salvador trip)
- August 16: Game night
- August 23: End of summer bonfire

RELAY FOR LIFE—LUMINARIES

FRIDAY, JULY 28 // 6-10PM @ WBL HS - SOUTH

Pastor Marla is participating in the White Bear Lake Relay for Life and you're invited to take part, too! Speak with her if you're interested in walking, or honor someone or someone's memory by getting a luminary. They are available in the church office or after church on Sunday. Suggested donation is \$10. Thank you!

REGISTER FOR VBS & HELP SPREAD THE WORD!

MONDAY—FRIDAY, AUGUST 7—11 // 9AM-NOON

All children ages 3 (and potty-trained) through those entering 5th grade in the fall are invited to a week of Bible stories, music, games, crafts - it will be packed with fun! Register today [on the church website](#). Please register by July 24 to ensure that your child receives a t-shirt.

HELP "DO GOOD"! — VOLUNTEER WITH VBS

MONDAY—FRIDAY, AUGUST 7—11 // 9AM-NOON

We're looking for Guides & Helpers, Activity Center Leaders and Helpers (Crafts and Games—supplies and activities provided), Photographer(s) and Floaters. Contact Patty Mesenbring (patty@abidingsavior.org) if you are able to help!

GET YOUR TWINS TICKETS NOW!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

We are headed to Target Field to watch the Twins take on the Cleveland Guardians. The cost is \$55 for each ticket which includes the ticket, coach bus to/from the game and hotdog dinner & snacks for during the game OR \$40 for the game, tailgating at church and snacks with NO BUS. We will meet at church at 4:30 for supper and leave by 5:30 pm. Game time is 7:10pm. Sign up at church! Payment is due at the time of sign-up. Contact the office if you have any questions!



TWINS GAME HELP NEEDED!

We are looking for a few volunteers to help coordinate the Twins game snacks, checking people in & distributing tickets and being the bus point person. If you can help so this doesn't fall on office staff, please let us know!

MEN'S FISHING TRIP—NEW LOCATION!

SEPTEMBER 22—24

Mark your calendars! This year we will be going to Camp Hiawatha on the Shores of Deer Lake just north of Grand Rapids, MN. Invite your friends and neighbors, sons and sons-in-law for a weekend of fishing and fellowship. The all-inclusive cost is only \$170 per person. We will be bringing our own boats to use over the weekend and if you don't have a boat, don't worry, others will share! Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ryan at 763-784-5120 or pastorryan@bidingsavior.org.

**JULY 16, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



God's word makes a difference for our lives.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Parable of the sower
Monday	Isaiah 55:10-13	God's word is powerful
Tuesday	Romans 8:1-11	Life in the Spirit
Wednesday	2 Timothy 3:10-17	Paul's charge to Timothy
Thursday	Joshua 1:1-9	God's commission to Joshua
Friday	Hebrews 4:8-13	The rest that God has promised
Saturday	Psalms 65	Thanksgiving for earth's bounty
Sunday	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Parable of the weeds

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

Matthew 13:8-9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Creative God, your word accomplishes all that you desire; we thank you for your work of love that brings hope and healing through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Almighty God, by your strength you bring forth food from the earth. Thank you for the abundant harvest that we enjoy today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's creative word bear fruit in your life through Christ.



JULY 16, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Lord, Let My Heart
Be Good Soil*



taking faith home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What do you think it takes to be a good gardener and have a successful harvest?
- We can receive God's word in worship, by reading the Bible, and through prayer and conversations. What is a favorite way for you to receive God's word?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

Jesus compares the sower's seed to God's word that bears much fruit. The seed needs to be planted in good soil to grow. Jesus compares the soil to our lives and our ability to hear and receive God's word. We can wonder if we are the good soil that receives God's word, but it may be that at different times we exhibit all four soils. There are times God's word doesn't stick (the path); sometimes it takes root but quickly dries up (rocky ground); sometimes the word gets smothered by competing concerns (thorns); sometimes the word takes root and produces much fruit (good soil). Our lives can experience all of these moments. This parable can be a humble reminder for us to be open to God's word so that our lives bear the fruit of love and peace. No matter how God's word bears fruit in our lives, it grows into a surprising harvest.

Discuss: How and when are you most attentive to God's word in your life?

Pray: **Dear God, you who are the source of all living things, bless us with faith in your word and your work in our lives to bless the world through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with the power of God's healing and forgiveness?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Gather four small pots. Fill the first with gravel to represent a path, the second with rocks, the third with thorns or thistles, and the fourth with good soil. Tell the parable of the sower in your own words. As you hold each pot, pray: **Lord God, keep us from having hearts that are hard, like a path. Keep us from having hearts that are shallow, like soil on rocky ground. Keep us from having hearts that are easily choked, like seeds among thorns. Instead, make our hearts like good soil, so that we gladly receive your word and accept it. Amen.**

Pastoral and Musical Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ryan D. Brodin

Interim Pastor

Pastor Marla Amborn

Interim Youth Directors

Alex & Josh Ertz

Children's Ministry Director

Patty Mesenbring

Organist

Janelle Schauer

Choir Director

Dr. Mary Larew

Bell Choir Director

Paul Weller

Summer Worship Schedule:

Indoor Worship with Holy Communion | Sundays at 10:00 AM

{ 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month }

Outdoor/Backyard Worship | Sundays at 10:00 AM

{ 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays of the month }

Women's Bible Study | Thursdays at 10:00 AM



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