



**Saint Matthew's**

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 12, 2026**

**10:00am**

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## **Prelude**

*Prelude in D minor*

Attr. to Johann Sebastian Bach

## **Processional Hymn 7**

RATISBON

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

## **The Collect of the Day**

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The First Reading**

**Genesis 25:19-34**

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 119:105-112**

*(said in unison)*

- <sup>105</sup> Your word is a lantern to my feet \*  
and a light upon my path.
- <sup>106</sup> I have sworn and am determined \*  
to keep your righteous judgments.
- <sup>107</sup> I am deeply troubled; \*  
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.
- <sup>108</sup> Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips, \*  
and teach me your judgments.
- <sup>109</sup> My life is always in my hand, \*  
yet I do not forget your law.
- <sup>110</sup> The wicked have set a trap for me, \*  
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
- <sup>111</sup> Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; \*  
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
- <sup>112</sup> I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes \*  
for ever and to the end.

**The Second Reading**

**Romans 8:1-11**

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 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, 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. 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. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 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, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 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.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### **Sequence Hymn 440**

LIEBSTER JESU

*Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

### **The Holy Gospel**

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 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. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear then the parable of the sower. 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 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. 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. 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."

*Gospeller*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **Offertory Hymn 632**

MUNICH

*O Christ, the Word Incarnate*

## Communion Hymn 627

NUN DANKET ALL UND BRINGET EHR

*Lamp of our feet, whereby we trace*

## Recessional Hymn 376

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

## Postlude

*Fugue in D minor*

Attr. to Johann Sebastian Bach

## Worship Leaders

*Celebrant*

The Rev. Dr. Tommy Watson

*Preacher*

The Rev. John H. Branson

*Eucharistic Ministers*

Anne Newton, Beth Baker

*Lector*

Mary Obermayer

*Intercessor*

Jean Campbell

*Music Director*

Irina Georgieva      *Cantor*      Janet Nobles

*Altar Guild*

Kimberly Olson, Char Griffin

*Coffee Host*

Rob & Melissa Kyle

**Prayer Requests** *Please call or email the office if you have additions or deletions to the prayer list.*

Today and through the week, we remember all those who have been commended to our prayers: Brian, DJ, Ed, Dan, Frances, Tommy Sr., Mia, Marty, John, Rhoades, Aaron, Liz, Scott, Judy, Vanessa, Melinda, Kathy, Shelly, Patty, Joan, Winter, Susan, Kristen, Vinny, and Antonio. For those serving in the military, Matthew Comeau. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. James', Poquetanuck; Christ Church, Redding; St. Stephen's, Ridgefield. ECCT and parish committees on investments, stewardship, planned giving, insurance & personnel policy.



## Open Doors Needs Us

Please help Stuff – A – Sock. Items needed: Men's athletic white socks, toothbrushes; travel-size toiletry items - body wash, combs, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste.

Please leave items in the donation boxes by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Questions-George Fuller.