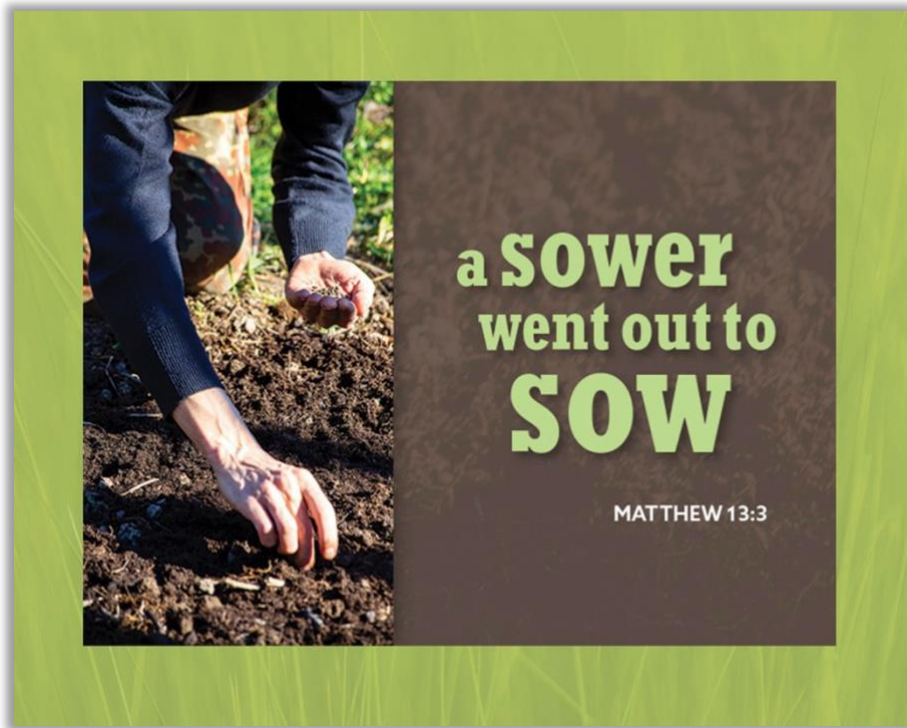


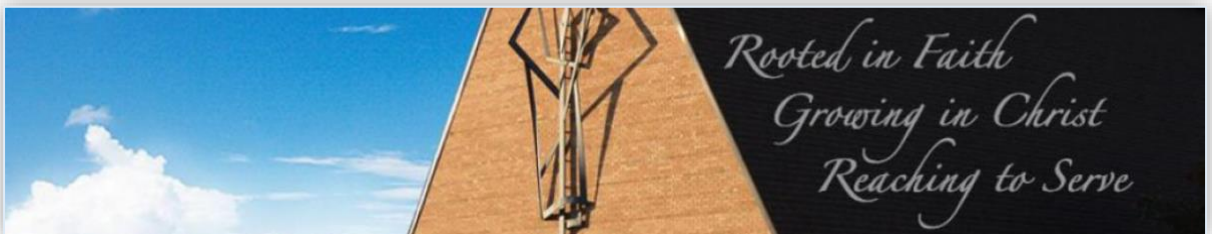
**SUNDAY, July 12th**  
*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

ELW# 533

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.**

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.**

## KYRIE

*Refrain*

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-ry day.

VERSE 3

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

friends and fam - i - ly; for

life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

# THIS IS THE FEAST



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**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.

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 55:10-13

*Judy Peliska, Lector*

*God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.*

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup> so 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.

<sup>12</sup> For 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.

<sup>13</sup> Instead 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM Psalm 65:1-13** *Please respond with verses in bold print.*

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Our sins are stronger than we are,  
but you blot out our transgressions.

<sup>4</sup> **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.**

<sup>5</sup> 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.

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

<sup>7</sup> You still the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**<sup>8</sup> 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.**

<sup>9</sup> 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.

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

<sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.

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

<sup>13</sup> May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;  
let them shout for joy and sing.

## **SECOND READING Romans 8:1-11**

*There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> 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, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.*

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

<sup>18</sup>"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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 INTERCESSION** Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*Please respond after each petition: "God of Grace," (Pastor) "hear our prayer," (Congregation).*

CONCLUDING PRAYER: Into your mercy, O God, we entrust our restless hearts and all our cares, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**SHARING THE PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.*

**OFFERING** Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry & missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving. You can give the following ways:

- + online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>
- + Using the QR code found here:
- + Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving
- + Dropping off or mailing in your offering – *Thank you*

**OFFERTORY***Accept, O Lord, The Gifts We Bring, Vs. #1*

ELW# 691



1 Ac - cept. O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.

**OFFERING PRAYER** Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise...**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

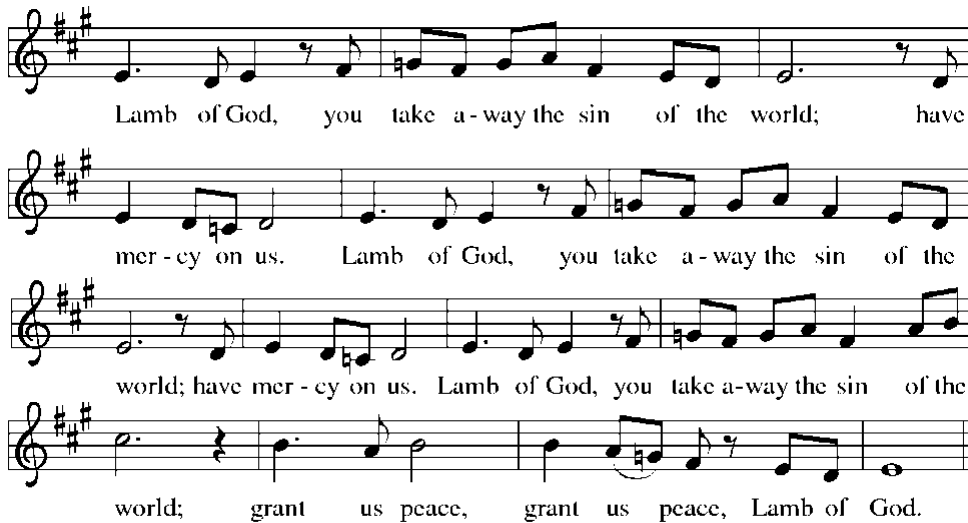
**LORD'S PRAYER** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 191

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast! All are welcome.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

***One Bread, One Body***

**ELW# 496**

***Here Is Bread (time permitting)***

**ELW# 483**

**TABLE BLESSING**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

**BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. Amen.

**SENDING HYMN**

***On What Has Now Been Sown***

**ELW# 550**

**DISMISSAL**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

***Jennifer Fredrickson, Pianist***

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## WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Tom, Nell, Fred, Steven, Gary, Chuck, Ron, Nadia, Butch, Mary, Ruth, Hudson, Wilson, Logan, Nel, Dan, Jim, Kyle, Cliff, Ryan, Alexandra W, Dan, Leslie, Shannon, Dale, Adeline, Sue, Jim, Wendy, Fred, Harry, Scooby, Larry, Caleb, Jake, Laurie, Mike, Tedd, Matthew, Rick & Betsy, Gordon, Ross, Anna, Archer, Sharon, Mary, Debbie, Leanne, Addy, Deb, Kyle, Gerilyn, Wally, Ralph, Sue.

***Call the church office or Pastor if you have a prayer need: we can send it to the prayer chain if you desire. If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.***

**CONTACT US** Office: 218-741-6207 Email: [office@oslcmn.com](mailto:office@oslcmn.com)  
OSLC, 1111 8<sup>th</sup> St. South, Virginia, MN  
Website: [www.oslcmn.com](http://www.oslcmn.com) [www.facebook.com/oslcmn](http://www.facebook.com/oslcmn)  
YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

**OFFICE ADMIN HOURS:**  
**CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS. OPEN TUES.– FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM**

**PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS** Pastor Liz is here Tues.–Thurs. & does visits etc., Mon. & Fri.  
Call @ 218-780-8907 or email at [lizcheney44@gmail.com](mailto:lizcheney44@gmail.com)

### **STAFF**

**Pastor:** Rev. Liz Cheney

**Secretary:** Colleen Brown Jacobson

**Bookkeeper:** Carole Rutka

**Custodian:** Steve Gagnon

**Musicians:** Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, Jen Fredrickson, Anna & Jim De Foe



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## *7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost*

**THE HOUSE IS BUILT!!** Can you believe it was the beginning of May this congregation gave to build a new house in Guatemala at the concert, and the house has already been built? Take a look at the build pictures on the glass cabinet in the narthex (also coming in your July newsletter) and the special “Thank you” from Juan & Elda and their children and Shawn & Brad of Recycled Lives.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH SUMMER EVENTS:** We need 11 adults **TO PRAY FOR 11 YOUTH** on their **mission trip in July**; talk with Pastor Liz if you’re able. The combined **VBS** takes place at Gethsemane **July 26-29, 5-8pm**, there is also a QR code for that on the handout, to register children, and to volunteer.

**SUMMER CHOIR** Although our choir is taking a break during the summer, we will have a “pick-up” choir for services **7/19, and 8/16**, all Sundays (8:30 a.m. practice before the 9:30 service). We invite anyone interested to join us! If you would like to sing in the choir occasionally, but don’t want to commit to every week, now’s your chance! Some of our “veteran” choir members will be singing on those Sundays, so you won’t be alone. Come make music & have some fun with us!

**BOOK STUDY GROUP** Join us as we study a wonderful classic titled, “*Falling Upward.*” We read a chapter together and hold open discussion afterwards-which has been fun & lively so far! Dates & time are: **July 23, Aug. 13 & 27, 12-1pm**, in the Fireside Room.

**WELCA & Fun-Duh-Mentals BIBLE STUDY** The next WELCA Study & Discussion will be held **July 21<sup>st</sup> @ 1pm**, and the next Fun-Duh-Mentals Bible Study on Ruth has been changed to **this Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm**. Both studies are open & do not require you to be seasoned with Bible Studies!

*\*All three Book studies above provide opportunity at different times during the month to explore spiritual life & build relationships; join us when you can!*

**WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP** Today’s Livestream is sponsored by George Croft, in loving memory of wife Jean. *Thank you for your support.* To sponsor Livestream & TV Broadcasts in honor of a person or special event (wedding annivers., birthday, graduation etc..) or in memory of a loved one, you may do so in any amount- It helps maintain our sound/camera equipment. See the kiosk/glass cabinet in the narthex to sign up. *Your support is appreciated.*

*\*Pastor Liz will be on vacation Wed. July 15-July 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

<p><b><u>THIS WEEK @ OSLC:</u></b>  <b>JULY 13</b>          10:30AM AA  <b>2 PM ORGAN PR.</b>          5:30PM TOPS          6PM BOY SCOUTS          7PM NA</p>	<p><b>JULY 14</b>          9:30AM WELCA MTG          10:30AM AA  <b>2 PM ORGAN PR.</b>  <b>4PM FUN-DUH-MENTALS STUDY</b></p>	<p><b>JULY 15</b>  <b>9AM QUILTING</b>          10:30AM AA  <b>12-3PM C. CLOSET</b>  <b>2 PM ORGAN PR.</b>          5:30PM ALANON</p>	<p><b>JULY 16</b>          10:30AM AA  <b>6PM CUB SCOUTS</b>          7PM NA W. WING</p>	<p><b>JULY 17</b>          10:30AM AA          7PM NA          W.WING</p>	<p><b>JULY 18</b>          10:30AM AA</p>
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# Pipe Project Together, we can!

Received as of 12/31/25  
\$173,649.09  
Received in January  
\$2,323.56  
Received in February  
\$6,986.66  
Received in March  
\$92,364.57  
Received in April  
\$7,360.82  
Received as of 5/31  
\$7043.86  
Received as of 5/31/26  
\$289,728.46



**Outstanding pledges**  
\$18,898.17  
**Endowment Fund balance**  
\$26,730.96

**New estimated project total**  
**\$384,000 +/-**

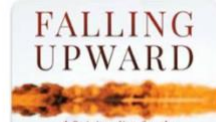
**Payment #1** 9/30/25 \$138,000  
**Payment #2** 5/18/26 \$133,765.25  
Other bills: Abatement \$2000  
Carpentry work: \$2917.25 as of 6/24

## Summer Book Study

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays  
Noon-1pm

Join us for a book study  
this summer. No need to read  
ahead, we will read together

All are welcome!



THE HANSEN COUNTRY

PRODUCE STAND IS OPEN!

WED - SUN 10AM-6PM



**PEACHES**  
MON - THUR  
JULY 13TH-16TH  
11:00 AM-5:00 PM  
[mryfc.org/peaches](http://mryfc.org/peaches)

## COMMUNITY CLOSET PANTRY

*Below are the following challenge items for the pantry. You can buy what you desire & at the store that is most convenient for you; we just provide examples of most commonly needed items for the week and give examples of spending \$10 or less. We appreciate all donations!*

1. SPAGHETTI SAUCE @ WALMART  
\$1.74 - \$2.48 VARIOUS 24OZ JARS
2. NOODLES @ WALMART  
\$1.24-\$1.84 VARIOUS BOXED KIDS
3. PEANUT BUTTER @ WALMART  
\$1.98-\$2.98 FOR 16OZ JARS
4. JELLY/PRESERVES @ WALMART  
\$1.98-\$2.84 FOR 18OZ JARS
5. CANNED VEGETABLES @ WALMART  
\$.78-\$1.67 FOR 15OZ CANS



13 <sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!" <sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>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."

**Devotion** In verses 18-23 of the gospel reading Jesus goes back to interpret his parable of the sower. Now he uses analogies to explain the parable so it becomes the parable of the soils. In the verses between the parable and this explanation Jesus talks to different people. In verses 1-9 he addresses the crowd; now he talks to his disciples telling them how their words and his will be received. Different soils receive the word differently: for some it is snatched away quickly, others receive it temporarily, still others give it momentary home, and others let it be crowded out by other words—but there are some who receive it and produce abundantly. That pretty much describes what people did with his word, and what people yet today do with the gospel word. But neither Jesus nor the disciples forced or manipulated people to hear, nor did they let different receptions stop them from sharing God's news. Neither should we.

**Prayer** Oh, Christ, God's living Word, thank you for sharing God's word. May your Holy Spirit inspire our words and actions that through them your news may enter other people's hearts and minds, and all of us may be fertile soil for your creative grace. Amen.

*Harvey Nelson '71 M.Div. Retired Pastor, Newport News, Virginia*