

An opening note about preparing for worship: please be sure to have bread and wine/juice/water standing by, ready for Communion.



**New Utrecht Reformed Church at home**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost and Holy Communion, July 12, 2020**

We pray:

Dear Lord, together in our separation we gather to worship you. We gather to praise you. We gather to thank you. We gather to petition you for the many who are in need of healing, comfort and encouragement. We celebrate that we have no God but you, and we are truly grateful that we are a family of faith united by you.

We sing:

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.  
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided:,  
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.  
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me!

We pray our Call to Worship:

Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing fresh from the Word! Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in

completeness where His feet pass. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,  
born of the one Light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!

We sing:

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.  
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

*Refrain:*

All good gifts around us  
are sent from heav'n above;  
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord  
for all his love.

We thank you, then, O Father, for all things bright and good:  
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;  
no gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,  
but that which you desire now: our humble, thankful hearts! [*Refrain*]

Our Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, You see deep into our hearts and know us better than we know  
ourselves. Forgive us we pray. For the times we turn away from Your word,  
remind us that You are the Lord our God, our eternal protector and guide.  
For our impulses of anger and jealousy, scorn or spite, grant us Your healing  
peace. For our resistance to forgiveness, generosity and mercy, inspire us with  
Your compassionate love. Amen.

Our Word of Assurance:

Redeeming God, in You, we are always welcome and accepted,  
always forgiven and renewed. Draw us closer to You, today and always. Amen.

Our Scripture Readings (please consult your own Bible):

- Isaiah 55:10-13
- Matthew 13:1-9 & 18-23

Our sermon: SUCCESSFUL SOWING

*In thanks for God's Word and God's great work among us,  
we will send our offering to Rita.*

We celebrate Communion:

Like Jesus, we take the bread, gave thanks to God, break it and share it if we are  
not alone. We say, "Jesus said, this is my body, which is broken for you. Do this  
in remembrance of me." We eat the bread.

Like Jesus, we raise the cup, saying, "Jesus said, this cup is God's new covenant  
sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you." We drink from the cup.

Thank you, Jesus, for inviting us to your table to be blessed by sharing in Communion.

We sing:

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
All nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, O let me n'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world; He shines in all that's fair;  
In rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

We pray:

Dear Lord, thank you for the honor and joy of communing with you and each other, Hear our prayers for all we name who are in need of your healing hand and the inspiration of your Spirit; hear our prayers for our families, friends and neighbors; hear our prayers for our city, our state, our country and the world as we all fight against a common enemy; hear our prayers of gratitude for all who serve, putting themselves at risk for the rest of us. Receive our joyful faith, and thank you for being our Lord, Savior and Comforter; bless us all this day and this week, we pray, until we gather again in the Spirit of worship. In your holy name, Amen.

We pray this Benediction together:

May we be held in the hand of God the Father Almighty  
May we be filled to overflowing with the Light of the world, His Son, our Savior Jesus  
And may we always be safely protected at home, and if we need to go out,  
by the shalom-making Holy Spirit.  
Amen.