



GRACE UNITED CHURCH

7th after Pentecost

July 12, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

Guest Worship Leader: Jennifer Franczek

Presider: Jewel Naismith

Music Director: Don Salfarlie

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: Saviour Like a Shephard Lead Us

Welcome, Announcements

& Traditional Land Acknowledgment

Jewel Naismith

Call to Worship

Jewel Naismith

One: Come, whether your week has been fruitful or frustrating.

All: We come just as we are.

One: Come with hearts ready to receive God's Word.

All: Open our ears and our hearts.

One: God is the Sower who scatters love generously.

All: May our hearts become good soil.

One: Come and worship the One who never gives up on us.

All: We come to worship God with joy. Amen.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Jewel Naismith

Today we light the Christ Candle as a reminder that God's light shines in every season of life. Sometimes life feels like a well-tended garden. Sometimes it feels more like you've accidentally planted weeds and are hoping no one notices. Yet wherever we find ourselves, Christ comes to us with grace, hope, and new life. May this light remind us that God's love is always growing—even when we can't yet see the harvest.

Opening Prayer:

Jennifer Franczek

Loving God, You are the generous gardener who never tires of planting seeds of hope, grace, kindness, and love. Sometimes we are rich, welcoming soil. Other times our hearts feel a little hard, distracted, or crowded with worries. Thank you that you don't give up on us. You keep planting, watering, and patiently waiting for new life to grow. As we gather today, quiet the noise around us and within us.

Help us hear your voice in scripture, in song, in prayer, and in one another. May your Holy Spirit soften our hearts so your love can take root and bear fruit—not just today, but throughout the week ahead. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who teaches us with stories that continue to grow in us long after we've heard them.

The Lord's Prayer:

VU #960

Praise and Worship 1:

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

VU #651

Children's Moment:

Jennifer Franczek

Song: Dance With the Spirit (2X)

MV #156

Children leave for Sunday School

Led by Kay Bingham

TO DISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY

Scripture Reading: Scripture Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 NIV

Sylvia Genders

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Seeds of Possibility

Jennifer Franczek

TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE

Offering Invitation

Offertory / Special Music: Bobby Hughes

He Who Began a Good Work in You

Jon Mohr

Offering Response: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU #541

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of the People

Praise and Worship 2:

MY Faith Looks Up to Thee

VU #663

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO LIVE ITS FAITH IN THE WORLD

Commissioning & Benediction:

May the God of Hope Go with You

VU #424. (Vs. 1 & chorus)

Postlude: Draw Me Nearer (I am Thine O Lord)

William H. Doane