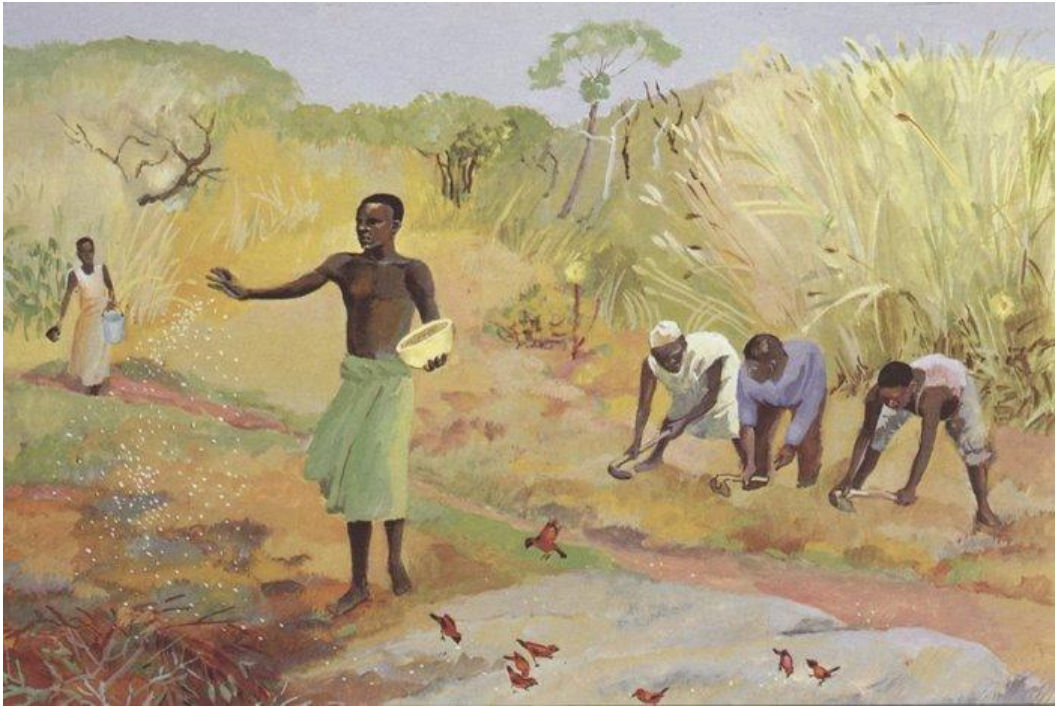
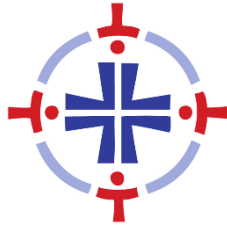




St. Simon's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 12, 2026



Welcome to St. Simon's

Celebrating God's love for all. Embodying Christ in the world.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. Welcome.

St Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites all who seek God into community, questions and doubts included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Welcome, Children. You are invited as full participants in our worship just as you are. God delights in you.

Welcome, Elders. Your wisdom and experience are valued in our community. God has shaped you and you are beautiful.

Welcome, you.

Welcome, everyone, to God's table. This is the table of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, and all who seek God are invited to share in communion. If you wish to participate, but prefer not to receive communion, please join everyone coming forward. Cross your arms over your chest and we will be glad to give you a blessing instead. If you wish to have communion brought to you at your seat, or if you desire a gluten-free wafer, please notify an usher.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.
May you encounter God in this community.

The Holy Eucharist

** Indicates the assembly stands, if able.*

*All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn 440

“Blessed Jesus, at thy word”

Liebster Jesu

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.
God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.
Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Gloria

S-277



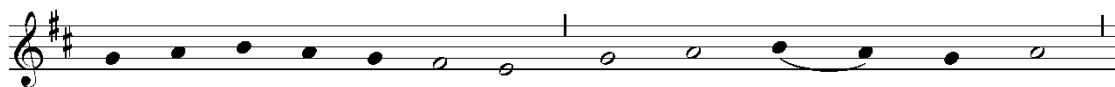
1. Glo - ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



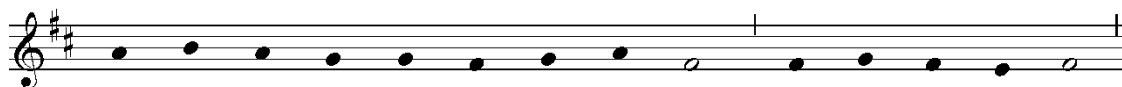
2. Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,



on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



4. you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;



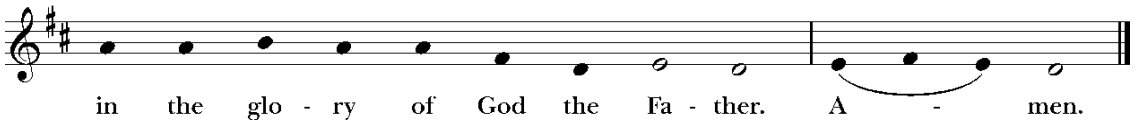
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,



The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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 Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson

Isaiah 55:10-13

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

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,

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.

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.

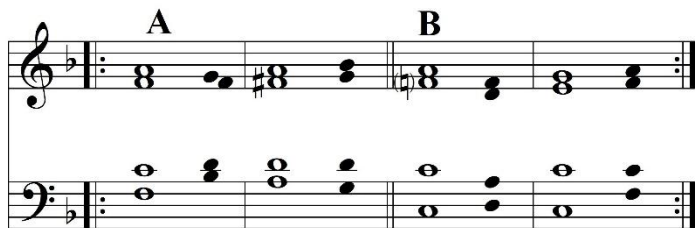
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalter

Psalm 65:1-14



- A Praise is yours, God in Zion.
Now is the moment to keep our vow,
- B for you, God, are listening.
All people come to you bringing their shameful deeds.
- A You free us from guilt, from overwhelming sin.
Happy are those you invite and then welcome to your courts.
- B Fill us with the plenty of your house,
the holiness of your temple.

- A You give victory
in answer to our prayer.
- B You inspire awe, God, our savior,
hope of distant lands and waters.
- A Clothed in power, you steady the mountains;
you still the roaring seas, restless waves, raging nations.
- B People everywhere stand amazed at what you do,
east and west shout for joy.
- A You tend and water the land.
How wonderful the harvest!
- B You fill your springs,
ready the seeds, prepare the grain.
- A You soak the furrows and level the ridges.
With softening rain you bless the land with growth.
- B You crown the year with riches.
All you touch comes a-live:
- A untilled lands yield crops; hills are dressed in joy,
flocks clothe the pastures, valleys wrap themselves in grain.
- B They all shout for joy
and break into song.

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:1-11

A reading from the letter to the Romans.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

***The Gospel Procession**

All join in singing both before and after the gospel.

1st time - Intro
2nd time - Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***The Holy Gospel**

Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Mary Haggerty

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

*An Affirmation

We believe that Jesus took the form of a servant,
so we commit ourselves to serve others.

We believe that God is love,
so we commit ourselves to reconciliation.

We believe that Jesus gives us his Spirit,
so we commit ourselves to his work in the world.

We believe that God is the light of life,
so we commit ourselves to bearing God's light in our world.

We believe that the Spirit speaks through us,
so we commit ourselves to proclaim the good news
of abundant life in the world God loves.

*The Prayers of the People

Friends in Christ,
God invites us to hold the needs of our siblings
as dear to us as our own needs.

Loving our neighbors as ourselves,
we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions
on behalf of the church and the world.

Come Holy Spirit, take and transform our societies
That your beloved may find justice, equity, and community.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, take our world's leaders and bring renewal
**That your beloved may have safety, peace, food, water, education, and
medicine.**

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, fill your Church

That your beloved would be changed in prayer, grow in faith, serve in your name, and partner with you.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, cleanse us of all violence in thought, word, and deed

That your beloved may live together in right relationship.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, strengthen and heal all who suffer, especially Makayla, Gayle, Lew, Mary Edith, Jan, Sunita, Jerry, Judy, Maria, Ken and Sherry, Grayson, James, Sandy, Marc, Pat, Trish and all patients, family members and staff at Northwest Community Hospital.

That your beloved may turn again to thank and praise you.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, console all who mourn

That your beloved may not be overwhelmed by loss, but find comfort and strength.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Come Holy Spirit, guide us through change and the unknown

That your beloved may rest in your eternal changelessness.

Please add your prayers silently, aloud, or in the chat

Hear our prayers, God of power,

And through the ministry of your Son

fill us with your Spirit,

that we may desire you as the fullness of life

and proclaim your saving deeds to all the world.¹ **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent,
for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

*The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries

All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Engagement Opportunities

Offertory

Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsmons

Offertory Anthem

“O Love That Will Not Let ME Go”

*O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*O Light that follows all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.*

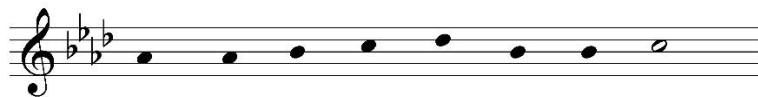
*O Joy that seekest me thru' pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow thru' the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.*

Text: George Matheson, Music: Carson Cooman
Sung by St. Simon's Pop-Up Choir

*Presentation of the Gifts



Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow;



Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;



Praise God a-bove, for what love's done;



Cre-a-tor, Christ, and Spi-rit, One! A-men.

*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP form A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

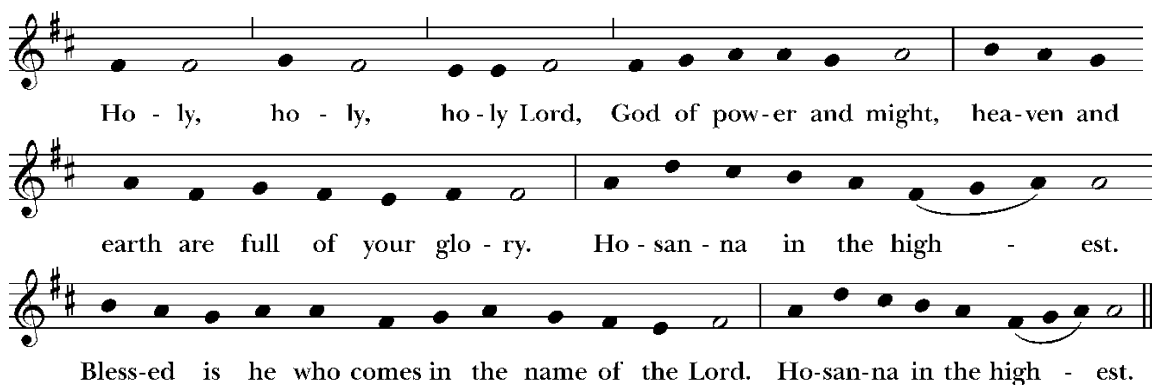
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, | for ever and ever. | Amen.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Presider and those worshipping online consume the host together with these words:

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion. You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.

Note: Generally, we will begin to sing the communion hymn once the final group of communion recipients has knelt at the rail. This way, more of the congregation can fully participate in singing most of the communion hymn.

Communion Hymn

“One Bread, One Body”



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all;



one cup of bless - ing which we bless,



we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew,	ser - vant or free,
2 Man - y the gifts,	man - y the works,
3 Grain for the fields,	scat - tered and grown,



wom - an or man,	no more.
one in the Lord	of all.
gath - ered to one	for all.

Refrain

***Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

In gratitude for this moment,
this place,
those around us,
Christ among us,
we give ourselves to you our God.

Take us out to live as changed people
because we have met the risen Christ
and cannot be the same.

**Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.**

**So may we live to your glory
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Through Jesus our brother,
with the aid of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.²**

When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

***The Blessing**

Closing Hymn

“Let all things now living”



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 His law he en - for - ces, the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, who fash - ioned and
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the



made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who still guides us
moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the deeps of the



on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, his
o - cean pro - claim him di - vine. We too should be voic - ing our



light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the
love and re - joic - ing; with glad a - dor - a - tion a song let us



night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is
raise till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -




ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
giv - ing: "to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

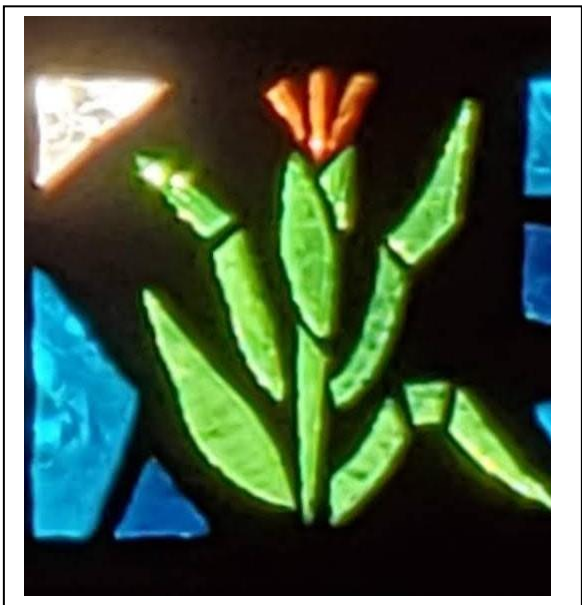
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

 This symbol, next to a hymn, denotes that the hymn (music and/or lyrics) was identified as a “favorite” as part of our recent Hymn Favorites survey.

Worship Space “I Spy” Adventure –

This summer we are drawing attention to the places our building tells a story about ourselves and about God.



<< Can you spot this?

What it tells us about our story:

Corn would not have been the grain which the sower in today’s gospel would have been throwing (officially called broadcast seeding), but it is in OUR story.

While the congregation began with 150 people meeting at South Junior High on September 22, 1957, they would buy a cornfield on Kirchhoff Road and begin its life there with the first Eucharist on November 20, 1960.

The window shows several other characteristics of the community, another of which, like any cornfields, has also gone away – can you identify that one too?

Answer: Lowest corner of the northern-most window on the west side.

LIVE-STREAM NOTICE - A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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Our Cover Art: JESUS MAFA. The parable of the sower, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48309> [retrieved June 25, 2026]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).

St. Simon's Episcopal Church

717 W. Kirchhoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

847.259.2930 ~ office@saintsimons.org ~ www.saintsimons.org

Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, *Rector*

The Rev. Mary Haggerty, *Sabbatical Supply Priest*

Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

Martin Pazdioch, *Music Director*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Mary Haggerty
Crucifer	Sara Lewandowski
Chalice Minister	Dave Howley
Readers	Anna McKinley Pat Engbrecht
Intercessor	Dave Howley
Ushers	Rachel Jarosik Allison Newhouse
Altar Guild	Maura Howley
Porter	Cleo Nykol
Organist	Martin Pazdioch
Viola	Hamilton Avila
Technical Production Team	Mike Krause