

Worship Service ~ *Preparing the Soil*

July 12, 2026

Pentecost 7, Year A,

Romans 8:1-11 / Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23 (NSRVA)

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, my name is *Carol Mason*. It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

Please stand with as you are able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship ~ *Based on Psalm 65*

One: All praise to you, O God!

All: You listen to prayer, and all living things come to you.

One: When we are overwhelmed by the evils we have done,

All: You forgive our sins.

One: We are happy and blessed that you are near to us.

All: It is our joy to dwell in your house.

One: You faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds

All: You are the hope of everyone on earth.

Invocation

Nurturing God, we are awed by your signs; You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the rivers of God are full of water; You irrigate the furrows in the fields abundantly, settling their ridges, softening them with showers, and blessing their growth. When the harvest comes, you provide the people with grain, for so you prepared it while the gateways of the morning and the evening shouted for joy. We are overwhelmed by this abundance; all thanks and praise to you, O God!! Amen.

Opening Hymn *I Sing the Mighty Power of God ~ #46*

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now 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.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up?

Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer by worship leader

Hymn

Seed, Scattered and Sown ~ #454

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. 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. ⁵ 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.'

Sermon ~ *Preparing the Soil*

Rev. Carol Mason

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn ***Blessed Be the Tie That Binds ~ #421***

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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