

# St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 135 Years

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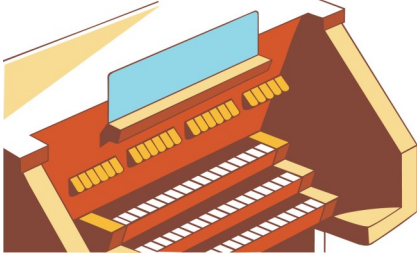


with Jesus Christ and Each Other

July 27, 2025

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

## From the **ORGANIST**



**Early in the Reformation**, Martin Luther (1483-1546) was intent on providing hymns for congregations to sing, especially songs that would carry the biblical teachings and present the basics of faith. By 1525, Luther himself had created a paraphrase of the Creed, had supplied new stanzas for a Holy Communion hymn, written a paraphrase of the Ten Commandments and had revised other hymns. It wasn't until over a decade later that he got to the Lord's Prayer and Baptism. In his Lord's Prayer hymn "Our Father, Who From Heaven Above" *LSB* 766, Luther began each stanza with a rather literal version of the prayer, with the final stanza being on the Amen, giving the singer not only the chance to offer prayer, but to also review its

meaning.

Today's offering voluntary is a chorale setting of this hymn tune by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). During Bach's time, this hymn was used as a Communion hymn, but also was used on Rogate Sunday, the fifth Sunday after Easter, which is also the Sunday before Ascension Day. On this day people would process through the fields, giving thanks and praise to God for the bountiful blessings of the field. This chorale was chosen not only because it fits our Gospel reading, but also in commemoration of the 275th anniversary of Bach's death (July 28, 1750).

### **Music in the Service:**

905: Come, Thou Almighty King

773: Hear Us, Father, When We Pray

917: Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

**Prelude:** The Lord's Prayer - setting by Lorie Line

**Offering:** Our Father, Who From Heaven Above - BWV 737 - J.S. Bach

**Postlude:** Alleluja! - George Jacob

