

Old Testament

Ezekiel 17:22–24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: “I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. ²⁴And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it.”

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:1–17

¹We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to

God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Holy Gospel

Mark 4:26–34

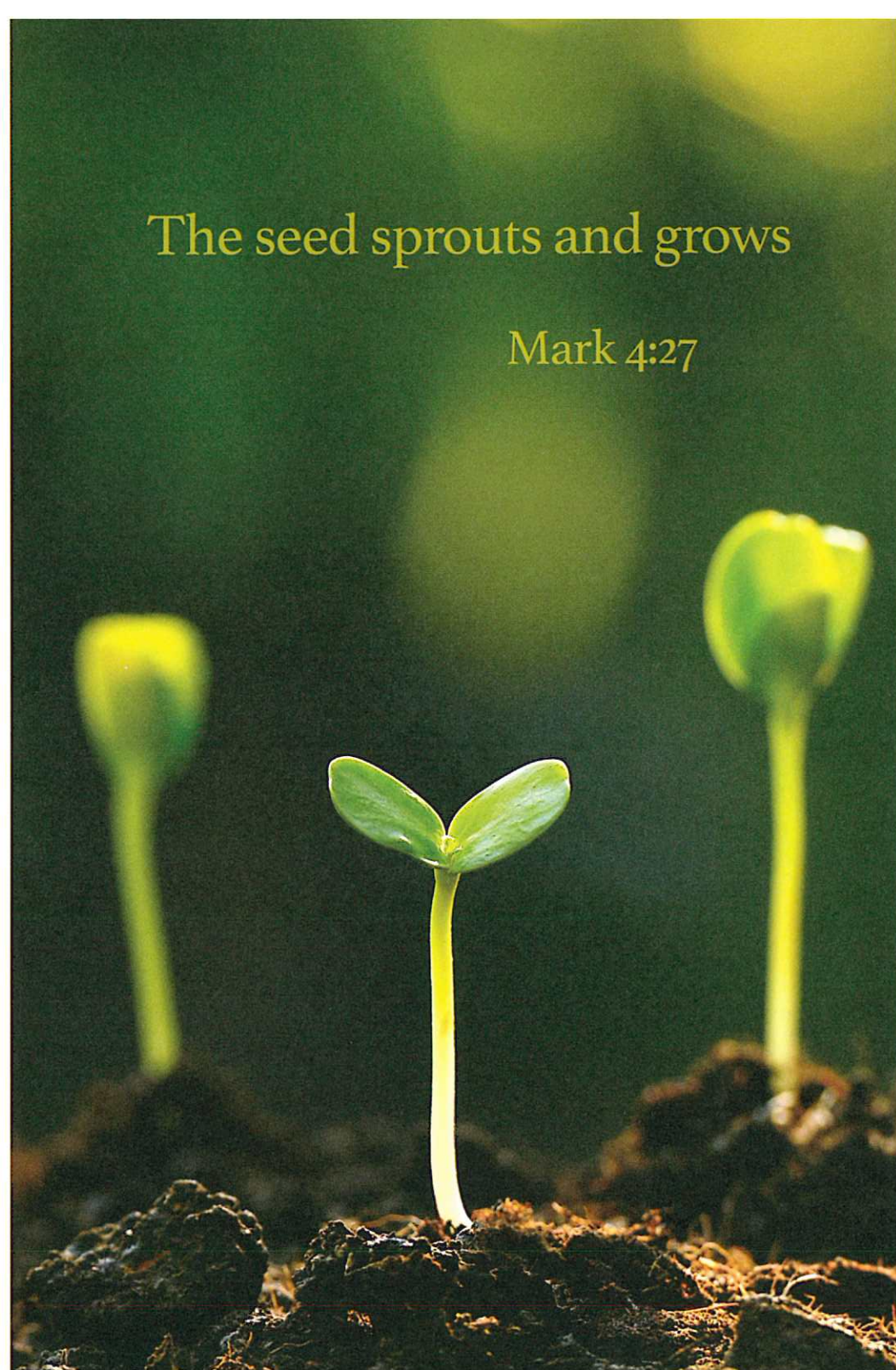
²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

The seed sprouts and grows

Mark 4:27



About the Cover: The new growth that sprouts from a seed and makes its way above ground is the wondrous work of God. We do not need to know how this works to trust that it, indeed, does. Such is the kingdom of God. It sprouts apart from our work. No matter who plants or waters, God is the One who gives the growth. What may look insignificant to our eyes at times is God working glorious growth unto eternity wherever the Word of Christ is preached.

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 9 & 13, 2021

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church
105 Horn St., Brillion, WI
(920) 756-3031
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Rev. Mark L. Krueger, Pastor
Devin Zahringer, Organist
Pastor Email: sblcpastor@gmail.com
Secretary Email: sblcbrillion@gmail.com

Liturgy: Divine Service Setting Three p. 184
Hymns: 528, 553, 805, 524
Sermon: "The Second Article"
Romans 1:1-7

THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE

Attendance 6/2 (Wed.): 28	Comm.: 28	Offering: \$427.00
Attendance 6/6 (Sun): 34	Comm.: 31	Offering: \$1,604.04
Budget Needs: \$3,541		Scrip Profit 6/6: \$21.75
Church Roof Fund: \$2,905.00		

KINGDOM WORK THIS WEEK

WED (6/16) 7:00 p.m. – Worship w/Comm.
FRI (6/18) 5:00 p.m. – Wedding Rehearsal
SAT (6/19) 1:30 p.m. – Delvaux/Hackbarth Wedding
SUN (6/20) 9:00 a.m. – Worship w/Comm.

IN OUR PRAYERS we remember Bud Zeamer who will have heart-valve replacement surgery on Wednesday (6/16); Terri Riemer who will have hip-replacement surgery on Thursday (6/17); Nathan Delvaux & Jamie Hackbarth who will be united in marriage on Saturday (6/19).

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Steve & Sue Juno in honor of their anniversary.

THANK YOU to Gary & Alice Koerth, Duane & Paula Kalies, and Tony Wittmann for working at the St. Vincent Brat Fry - with their help we are now 8 bags of shingles closer to a new roof.

CHURCH ROOF FUND – We are currently raising funds to replace the church roof. Consider buying one or a few bundles of shingles. A bundle is \$105. The complete project cost is \$19,300.

BABYSITTER(S) WANTED – A 4-year-old and a 2-year-old from Potter are looking for a babysitter(s) to get a break from their parents, Kyle & Whitney Kees. Nothing consistent for the summer but rather on an as needed basis. If interested, contact Pastor Krueger.

GRADUATION CARDS are available in the card room.

PRODUCE TABLE – If you have any extra garden produce during the summer months that you would like to share with members of the congregation, drop it off on the table in the coat room. Items can be left on or taken from the table anytime during the week.

JOYFUL GIVING - Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with your other obligations? St. Bartholomew offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you have plans to travel this summer, electronic giving gives you a convenient way to keep us with your intended offerings. Contact the church office to complete a form.

OUR STEWARDSHIP LIFE

Luke 14:19 – “And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ ” The things of this world tempt us to cast aside the things of God. The things of this world demand our attention, time, finances, etc. But Jesus invites us to the feast – what could be more important than this gracious invitation? Today's parable invites us to examine our own priorities and attempted excuses and then to come home to the Lord in humble repentance.