

**Rio Terrace Church
Order of Worship
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026**

Rio Terrace Church is an inclusive, community-oriented church in the Moravian tradition. Our mission is to be “a community of spiritual journeyers who are experiencing, growing in, and living the love of God as shown in Jesus Christ.”

We humbly gather on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of diverse Indigenous peoples including Cree, Dene, Nakota Sioux, and Metis. We honour their enduring connection to this land and commit to respecting and learning from their histories and cultures.

Theme: God’s Timing

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

***Call to Worship (adapted portions of Isaiah 55:10-13)**

As the rain and snow come down to water the earth,

to make things grow and flourish;

so God’s love covers the whole earth,

to make us grow and thrive.

God’s word accomplishes all that God intends,

leading us out into the world with joy to share God’s love

and leading us back home in peace knowing that love wins.

Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of Gathering: Come Let Us Sing**

1. Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,
we have stood silently too long;
surely the Lord deserves our praise,
so joyfully thank God for our days.

2. O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;
God’s living waters will never fail.
surely the Lord will help you to stand,
strengthened and comforted by God’s hand.

3. You dwell among us and cause us to pray,
and walk with each other following your way;
our precious brothers and sisters will grow
in the fulfilling love they know.
4. Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing
to the desire of all living things.
Come, all you creatures, high and low
let your praises endlessly flow.

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Centering

Poem:

Waiting is one thing that all of us experience in every part of our life's journey. It is rarely an easy thing to do.

Patience by Justin Farley

The agony of waiting watching the hours
Drains my power and leaves me bitter
Filled with battered pride and endless angst.
But just as it takes a season to cultivate a flower,
I must keep a steadfast heart and wait.

My deepest failure is relying on my own two hands
To control, conquer, defend, and prevent defeat.
For when I am solely responsible for the success of all life's plans,
My heart lies anxious constantly, consciously looking
To deter life's inevitable outcomes with each and every beat.

It is in waiting, humbly praying, admitting
That you and you alone know the matter of my fate,
That my anxious and impatient heart can rest
Trusting you know what's best and patiently, pridelessly wait.

Musical Meditation

Listening

Scripture readings

First Reading: Genesis 25:19-34

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Message: Rev. Rob Key

Responding

***Hymn of Response: As Trees from Tiny Seeds Can Grow**

1. As trees from tiny seeds can grow,
as yeast expands the lifeless dough,
as light, unhampered, shines around,
so does God's gracious love abound.
2. As hidden treasure is reclaimed,
we, God's new people, are renamed.
For us the pearl, long sought is found.
Christ is our treasure sure and sound.
3. We are not promised weedless fields.
Nor are we given equal yields.
But God's true faithfulness shall stay
with us, supporting all the way.
4. As coins, once lost, are found with joy,
as Jesus loves each girl and boy,
so we, now found by God, rejoice,
lifting in praise one heart and voice.

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Sharing Together – Blessings, Concerns, Spirit Sightings

Praying Together

Sending

***Sending Forth Hymn: In the Bulb There is a Flower**

1. In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise;
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter,
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.
2. There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.
3. In our end is our beginning
in our time, infinity
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

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***Benediction**

Postlude

*Please stand as able