

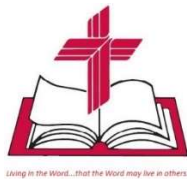
### 3) **God grows me like a MUSTARD SEED.**

<sup>26</sup> He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup> Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. <sup>29</sup> As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.” <sup>30</sup> Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. <sup>32</sup> Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.” <sup>33</sup> With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. <sup>34</sup> He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything.

Mark 4:26-34

### **Worship Prayer...**

*Father in heaven, I admit I am a sinner and cannot save myself but trust only in your Son Jesus Christ—true God and true man—who died on the cross for me and rose again to give me new life now and forever. By your Holy Spirit’s power take my heart and life and make me yours; turn me from my own selfish path to always love, trust and follow Jesus. Because you love and forgive me, help me forgive and love others. And now, as we gather together as your church in this place, make us one in truth and love according to the faithful leading and unfailing promises of your living Word. In Jesus’ name.... Amen!*



**‘Come grow with us!’**

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# *Living Word*



***The Parable of the Mustard Seed***

Mark 4:30-34

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
10:00 am Service

# WELCOME TO LIVING WORD!

*Blue church information card is in seat pocket*

## WE REJOICE IN GOD'S LOVE & FORGIVENESS...

Opening Prayer

Praise Song

*"Heaven Is in My Heart"*

Invocation

Confession & Forgiveness

*On screen or Hymnal p. 158*

Affirmation of Faith:

Nicene Creed

## WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD...

Today's Psalm

*Psalm 1*

Scripture Readings

*Facing page*

Message Song

*"The Trees of the Field"*

Message

*"Like a Tree"*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S CALL...

Prayers of God's People

Lord's Prayer

Communion

*"Father Me, Again"*

Benediction

Closing Song

*"I'm But a Stranger Here"*

*Please place offerings in basket at sanctuary entrance*

## "Like a Tree"

Psalm 1 says: *"Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither — whatever they do prospers."*

### 1) **God plants me like a CEDAR.**

<sup>22</sup> "This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup> On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. <sup>24</sup> All the trees of the forest will know that I the Lord bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. "I the Lord have spoken, and I will do it." Ezekiel 17:22-24

### 2) **God clothes me with a HEAVENLY HOME.**

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup> Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup> because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup> For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup> Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. <sup>6</sup> Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we live by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:1-10