



THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 19, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

These summer months take us through the heart of the Gospel according to St. Matthew (selections from chapters 11–16), and in these texts we learn more about the heart of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our compassionate Savior invites us to “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28 ESV). What is the kind of life and rest Jesus invites us to experience with Him as He reigns as our Savior King? *This is Part 7 of a year-long series, “A Year in Matthew.”*

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

✙ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 892 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS *Psalm 124:8; 130:3–4*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTROIT | Entrance *Psalm 86:11–15; antiphon: v. 6*

P Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

C listen to my plea for grace.

P Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;

C unite my heart to fear your name.

P I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

C and I will glorify your name forever.

P For great is your steadfast love toward me;

C you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

P O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life,

C and they do not set you before them.

P But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,

C slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;

C listen to my plea for grace.

KYRIE | Lord, Have Mercy *Mark 10:47; for text with tune, see page 204.*

C (sung) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS | Glory to God in the Highest *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

For text with tune, see page 204.

C (sung) To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here

and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *1 Chronicles 16:23–24*

C Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 44:6–8*

The LORD declares He is the first and the last; aside from Him, there is no real god.

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient

people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. ⁸Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 8:18–27*

In the face of present sufferings, we cry out for God's help and deliverance. Even when we do not know how to pray or what to pray for, the Holy Spirit intercedes on our behalf in ways we cannot explain.

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of

childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too

deep for words.²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the

Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *John 20:31; for text with music, see page 205.*

C (sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43*

Jesus tells the parable (story) of the weeds to illustrate how the devil works to sow seeds of doubt and wrong belief among God's people. Yet, in the end, God's people will be rescued from all hardship.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" ...

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

SERMON HYMN 585 *“Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide”*

SERMON *The Heart of the Gospel: “The Grace of Patience”*

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

G hear our prayer.

The 10:30 am service concludes with the Lord’s Prayer, Benediction, and Closing Hymn 923, “Almighty Father, Bless the Word.”



We receive God’s gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

The 8:00 am service continues with the Preface on page 208 in the hymnal.

We believe that in the Lord’s Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord’s Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses

in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

HYMN 789 *“Praise and Thanksgiving”*

HYMN 820 *“My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker”*

HYMN 804 *“O Worship the King”*



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

The service concludes with the Nunc Dimittis, Post-Communion Collect, and Benediction on pages 211–212.

CLOSING HYMN 923 *“Almighty Father, Bless the Word”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: How can a world loved by God in Jesus still have so much evil? Why is the hurt and grief of sin allowed to continue? Jesus says in Matthew 13 that the answer to this is God's gracious patience. To uproot and eradicate sin and those loyal to the evil one at this time would risk harming the good growth of God's Kingdom. God loves this world so much that He patiently waits for the fullness of time to bring judgment and on that day, all will be made right. Until then, we give thanks for His grace and His present (and eternal) reign in Jesus.

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Liturgist & Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Chris Nienhiser, Olivia Harrington, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Amelia Shafer, Isabella Hagan, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Tim & Robin Kerkсиеk, *Greeters (8:00 am)*

Richard & Linda Strobel, *Greeters (10:30 am)*

Tim Bauer, Mark Heins, Russ Kruse, *Elders on Duty*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please contact the church office to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Our pastor "on call" number in case of emergency is (660) 580-5483.

New: Wilmer Ziegelbein, Arleen Feine, Trisha Boland, Annette Kirchhoff, Karol Meyer, Konner McKnight, Sarah McDaniel, Royce Herndon, Virgil Gramenz, Hudson Kloos, Nicole Maxwell, Lisa Arnett, Joyce Kroll, Rev. Dr. Les Mitkos

Ongoing: Susan Reeves, Donald Dedeke, Richard Cordes, Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, Diane Stumpenhause, Ken Wodrich, Les Bruns, Wilmer Bredehoeft, Melba Poese, Paul Brackman, Baby Felix, Gene Virus, Harry Rehkop, Jon Spells, Roger Kammeyer, Ledrue Brandt, Alyssa Pfannkuch, Alice Hildebrand, Donnie Fiene, Rev. Perry Copus, Darla Wolters, Vickie Greene, Amy Gerds, Tim Bergman, Amy Backus, David Rehmsmeyer, Lari Huntze, Kelly Meyer, Shirley Kimball

Nation and World: the people of Tuvalu

Partners in Mission: Hope Lutheran Chapel; Osage Beach, MO and Rev. Guillaume Williams, Sr; Mission of Christ Network

Birthdays: (7/19) Arlo Brandt, Joanna Peuster, Braylon Wiskur; (7/20) Kelly Frerking, Nathan McCaslin, Phyllis Mieser, David Rehmsmeyer; (7/21) Kayla Clouse, Matthew Drefs, Susan Jaster, Faith Moore, Kaleb Virus; (7/22) Erin Beerman, August Drefs, Todd Martens; (7/23) Karen Bauer, Sarah Heins, Jennifer McCaslin, Eric Ritzma; (7/24) Arleen Fiene, Brayden Frerking, Curtis Meyer; (7/25) Rhonda Denk, Brenda Frerking, Jameson Oetting, Rose Carlton-Wood

Anniversaries: (7/20) Larry & Grace Grass; (7/21) Randy & Sandra Hinck, William & Angela Ivie, Brad & Sarah Meineka; (7/22) Roger & Vicki Kirchhoff; (7/23) Mark & Susan Oetting; (7/24) Harland & Phyllis Mieser

FAMILY FOOTNOTES

Gina Martens, Family Life Director

Hopefully, many of you have been able to enjoy some away time this summer, whether that be a full-blown vacation or a few short day trips. How did you prepare for that trip? Did you make a list? Pack snacks? Grab your chargers? Look at a map? My friend has a fancy watch that she can sync with her Garmin which sends a vibration to her wrist to alert her when it is time to make a turn. As I was thinking about her watch, I thought about all of the ways that we equip ourselves to ensure that we are traveling in the right direction so as not to make a wrong turn and end up somewhere we do not want to be. What about our spiritual life? Are we equipping ourselves to ensure that we are traveling in the right direction? Do we take that as seriously as preparing for a road trip? Take a look around you. We hear of shootings, see violence playing out on our screens right in front of us, and listen as the media sends mixed messages to our children. Searching for truth in God's Word and preparing ourselves by putting on the full armor of God is the only way to ensure that we are traveling in the right direction. Stay connected. Stay plugged in...to your Savior. Listen to **HIS** voice. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and light for my path." Psalm 119:105

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Deuteronomy 7:6–9; Romans 8:28–39; Matthew 13:44–52
Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 651, 743, 732, 818, 636, 730



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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