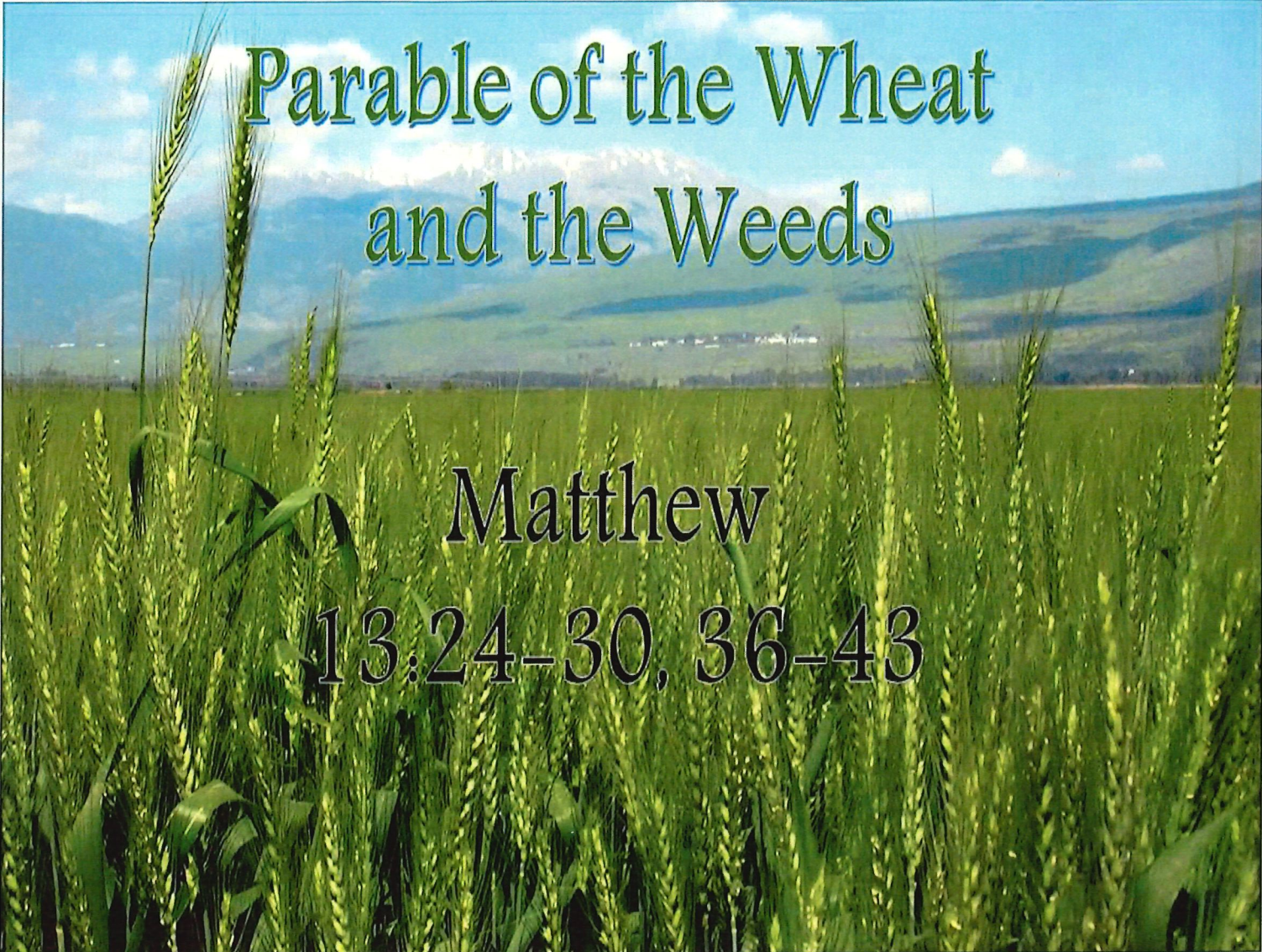




Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds

Matthew
13:24-30, 36-43

First Lutheran Church

July 19, 2026

Pentecost 8

WELCOME

PRELUDE

BUNESSAN

Diane Bish

Praise and Thanksgiving

GATHERING

The assembly stands.

INTRODUCTION

AM: It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

PM: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

PM: Let us confess our sin to God.

The assembly kneels.

PM: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

PM: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

The assembly stands.

GATHERING SONG

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

ELW # 689



- 1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
- 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
- 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
- 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

GREETING

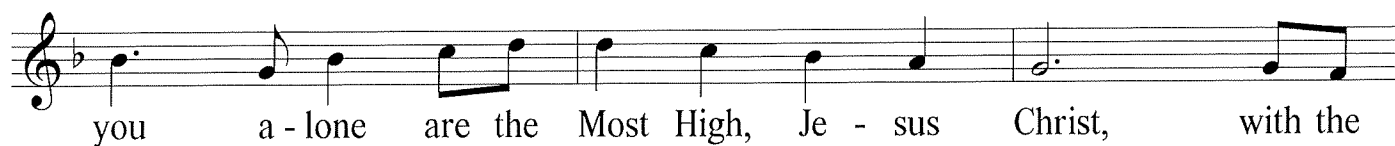
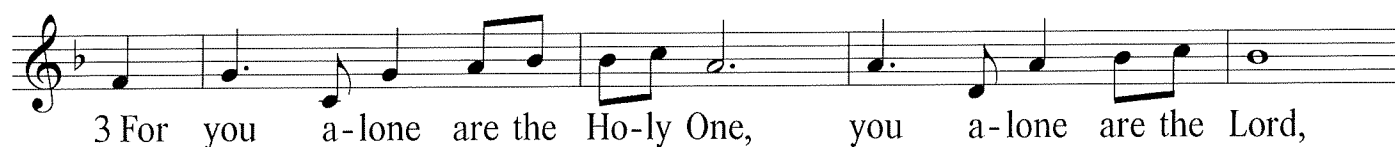
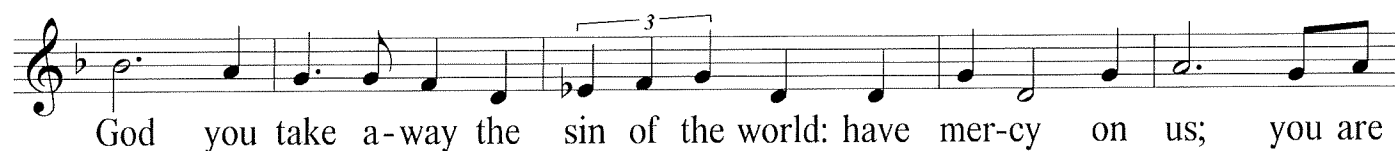
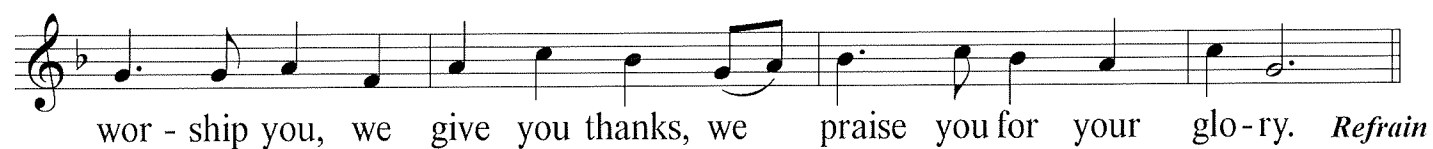
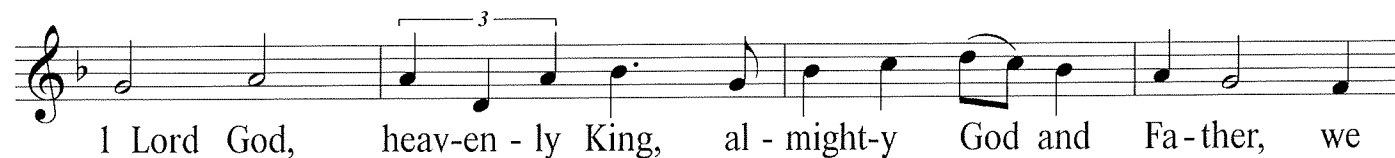
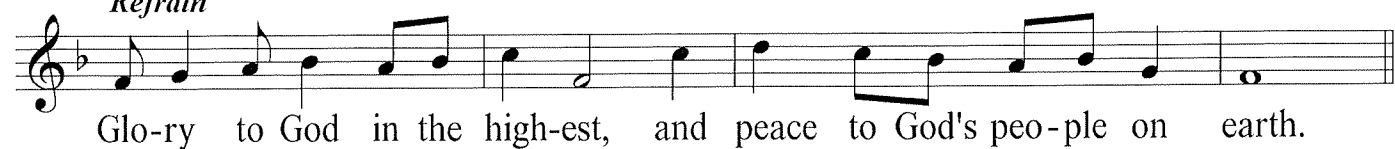
PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirt be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Refrain



PRAYER OF THE DAY

PM: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion.

By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom,
that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

WORD

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 44:6-8

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the LORD does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel-and we-are redeemed.

AM: A reading from Isaiah, the forty-fourth chapter.

⁶ Thus 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.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

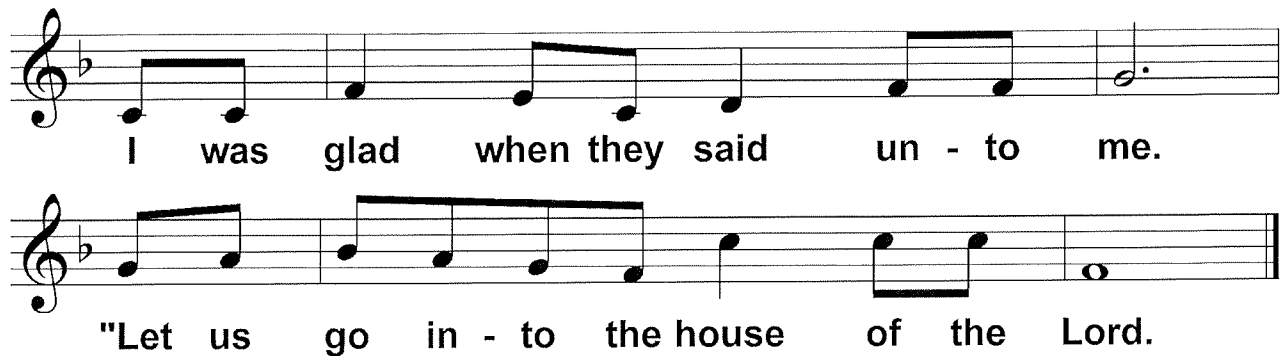
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

AM: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



The Cantor will sing the verses:

- ¹ I was glad when they | said unto me, "Let us go into the house | of the Lord."
- ² Now our | feet are standing within your gates, | O Jerusalem.
- ³ Jerusalem is built | as a city that is at unity | with itself;
- ⁴ to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the Lord. **Refrain**
- ⁵ For there are the | thrones of judgment, the thrones of the | house of David.
- ⁶ Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem: "May they pros- | per who love you. **Refrain**
- ⁷ Peace be with- | in your walls and quietness with- | in your towers.
- ⁸ For the sake of my kindred | and companions, I pray for | your prosperity.
- ⁹ Because of the house of the | Lord our God, I will seek to | do you good." **Refrain**

SECOND READING

ROMANS 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

AM: A reading from Romans, the eighth chapter.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits

with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

AM: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



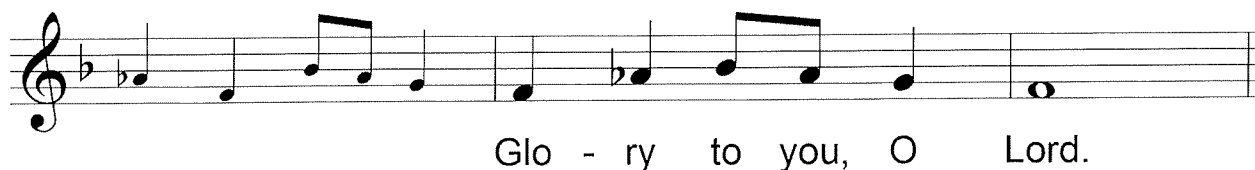
*The Cantor will sing the verse: My word shall accomplish that¹ which I purpose,
* and succeed in the thing for¹ which I sent it.
(Isa. 55:11)*

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43

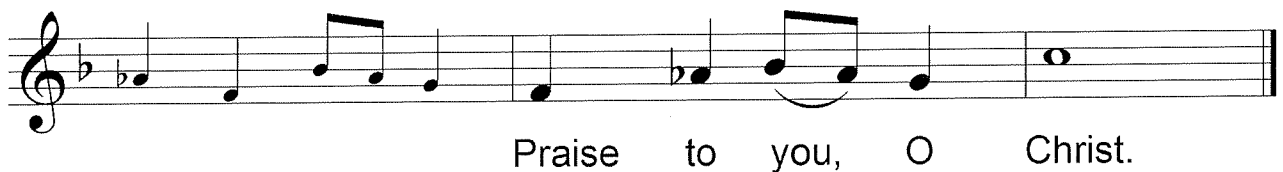
Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

PM: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.



²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?'²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " ³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

PM: The gospel of the Lord.



The assembly is seated.

SERMON

PASTOR BILL SCHULTZ

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY



- 1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
- 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

NICENE CREED

PM: In trust and hope we profess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The assembly kneels.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PM: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made,
let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

AM: God our source,
protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat.
Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us,
and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us.

Each petition concludes:

PM: God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

PM: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness,
we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.
C: Amen.

The assembly stands.

PEACE

PM: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

AS THE GRAINS

Edwin T. Childs

As the Grains of Wheat

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

PM: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PM: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

PM: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en. and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

PM: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

PM: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION

Communion is distributed in two manners

† *You may commune in your pews.*

Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex doors.

*The presiding minister will share a blessing,
all communing in-place will commune together.*

† *You may come to the Table, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.*

A basket is available for disposal of your individual communion cups.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PM: Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

The assembly stands.

TABLE BLESSING

PM: The blood and body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AM: Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

PM: We pray together:

C: Oh, God, your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.

**We are grateful for your goodness and we ask now for confidence
to go forward into the future.**

**Bless our community of faith, bless the changes that are before us,
bless our pastoral leaders who will shepherd us
through this time of transition.**

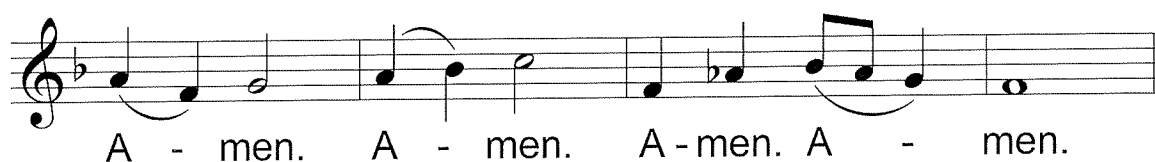
We thank you for the wisdom you show us.

Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry and our future.

**Receive our prayer, O God, through Jesus Christ,
our strength and salvation.
Amen.**

BLESSING

PM: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.





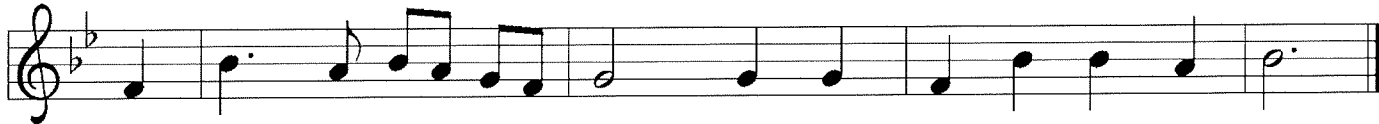
- 1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
- 2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
- 3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

DISMISSAL

AM: Heaven has come near.

PM: Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

Dennis Eliot

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Events in Review

<u>Sunday</u>	July 19
10:00 AM	Pentecost 8
<u>Monday</u>	July 20
10:00AM	Bible Study at Willows
1:30PM	Bookworms
<u>Tuesday</u>	July 21
<u>Wednesday</u>	July 22
<u>Thursday</u>	July 23
1:00 PM	WOFB
<u>Friday</u>	July 24
<u>Saturday</u>	July 25

July Monthly Scroll

Is available on line and on table in hallway

LAWN MOWER OF THE WEEK

Pete Myers



If you have a prayer request for today, please raise your hand during announcements and a host will give you a green card to fill out.

Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Information Board in the hallway. The time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



Next Week

<u>Sunday</u>	July 26
10:00 AM	Pentecost 9
<u>Monday</u>	July 27
10:00 AM	Bible Study at Willows
<u>Tuesday</u>	July 28
<u>Wednesday</u>	July 29
<u>Thursday</u>	July 30
<u>Friday</u>	July 31
<u>Saturday</u>	Aug 01

The Giving Tree Project

Mulch—Thank you to those who have contributed!

We hit our GOAL!!!!

Contact Us



First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore Street

Tiffin, Ohio 44883

419-447-1323

www.firstlutherantiffin.com

firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

Our Worship Leaders

Altar Guild

Luise & Ken Zeop

Cantor:

Elijah Shiley

Facebook Camera

The Rosses

Host

Judy Kimmel

Reader:

Melissa Chester

Worship Assistant

Melissa Chester

Director of Music:

Curtis L. King

Minister:

Pastor Bill Schultz

Interim Pastor

Pastor Mark Schuring

(740) 360-2306

theskipster55@gmail.com

Emergency Contacts

PASTOR MARK SCHURING	740 360-2306
LINDA WARREN	419 618-5207
RICK GREENE	419 937-7378
CURTIS L. KING	419 937-7142
GLORIA STACY	419 934-3023
RICK SHOLL	419 939-3436

Our Mission Statement

“God is among us!”

**“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel,
forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”**

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies

Annual License #SAS003776. Hymns reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, license #A-735756

July 19, 2026