

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
A Service of Word and Table
in the 167th Year of the Parish
July 19, 2020. 8:00 & 10:30 am
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
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Our Mission: “To know Christ and to make Christ known.”

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we**

have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. 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.**

***HYMN** Come, You Thankful People Come LBW 407

Come, You thankful people come;
Raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in
Ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker does provide
For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

For the Lord our God shall come
And shall take his harvest home.
From his field shall in that day
All offenses purge away,
Give his angels charge at last

In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store
In his garner evermore.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

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.

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 44:6-8

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.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 86:11-17 (*Read responsively*)

11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

**12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

13 For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

14The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;

they have not set you before their eyes.

15But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

16Turn to me and have mercy on me;

give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.

17Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;

because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 8:12-25

12So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13for 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. 14For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

18I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 20for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 23and 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. 24For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 25But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*THE GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

24[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;25but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27And 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?’ 28He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ 29But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30Let 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.’ ”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope we affirm our faith.

Pleas print here the Apostles' Creed from LBW.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in Mercy/**Your mercy is great.**

*THE PEACE

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Please print here the proper preface for Sundays after Pentecost. Follow this with sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) from setting 10 ELW. Words of Institution follow from p. 69 LBW.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave 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.**

***THE COMMUNION**

P Friends of Jesus, come to the table.
Receive nourishment for your journey.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God of the welcome table,

C **in this meal we have feasted on your goodness
and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts**

**so that we may share your neighborly love with all,
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE BLESSING

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the Father, † God, the Son,
and God, the Holy Spirit,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C Amen.

*HYMN Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise LBW 526
Immortal, Invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most gracious, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in might;
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render; oh help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

*DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE