



EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 19, 2026 at 10:00am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

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 GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude for a Festive Occasion, Op. 21
Richard H LaLumondier (1942–2025)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

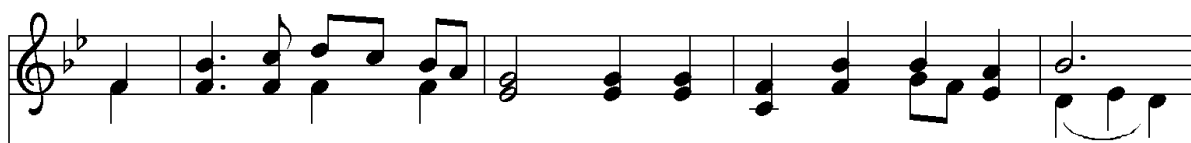
Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
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.

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. **Amen.**



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.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW Setting 10



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.
Amen.

Please be seated.

THE 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.*

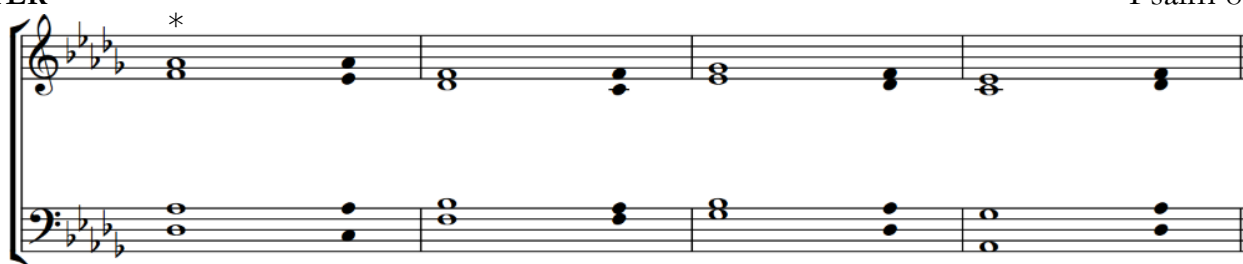
Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. 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.

Thanks be to God.

PSALTER

Psalm 86:11-17



- 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.
- ¹⁴ The arrogant rise up against me, O God, ' and a band of violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.
- ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, ' and full of kindness and truth.
- ¹⁶ Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, ' and save the child of your handmaid.
- ¹⁷ Show 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.

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.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—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. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 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!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 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. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 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. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 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. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 172 – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL READING

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.

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 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?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 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.' " 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." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Zawistoski

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.

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

After each portion of the prayers:

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*All may share a sign of Peace.
Please be seated.*

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us or place it in the offering plate,
or use this QR code with your device to securely give your Offering.

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910



OFFERTORY MUSIC

Eli Handwerker, Trumpet

*The offering is received and is presented at the altar.
Please stand.*

THE OFFERING HYMN

ELW 686 – We Give Thee But Thine Own

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system includes two verses of lyrics. The second system continues the melody and includes the final lines of the hymn. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C).

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Indeed it is right to give thanks and praise, for 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

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

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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.

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.

Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.

(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you. / The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen.***

AGNUS DEI

Setting Ten



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN

LBW 212 – Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.

Refrain



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.



3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;



let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.

Refrain

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

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

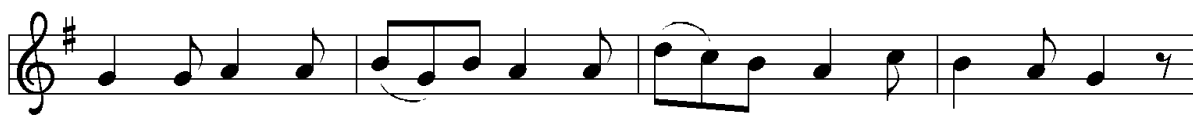
Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

ELW 207–Thankful Hearts & Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 516 – Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,

now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final four lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in Classic Style
Gordon Young (1919–1998)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller
Senior Pastor

PREACHING MINISTER

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski
Confirmation Pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield
Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries

COMMUNION SERVER

Gerson Vasquez
IT Ministry

READER

Elizabeth Tremaine

CRUCIFER

Becky Unkenholz

MUSICIANS

Adam Scott Graham
Director of Music

Ralph Watkins
Carillon Guild

Eli Handwerker, Trumpet
Offering Music

THE FLOWERS ABOUT THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by the Heinbaugh family in celebration of Charles Heinbaugh's 102nd birthday on July 21.

MIGHT YOU BE available on some Sundays to serve as an usher and greeter? A gathering/training for present ushers as well as new ushers is scheduled for next Sunday, July 26, following worship. If you might be able to serve please see Scott McKay, Usher Coordinator, or email him at smkay@saintluke.us

SCHOOL SUPPLIES PROJECT UNDERWAY

Like last year, we are collecting funds that will be turned into gift cards for families to purchase school supplies. (Kindly do not donate actual school supplies) Pastor Miller and Suleyma Alfaro, will be distributing the gift cards to families in need of assistance in our La Sagrada Familia Community.

In order for families to be able to purchase in time, **deadline for all funds is Sunday, August 16.** Please go to www.saintlukegive.us and click *School Supplies Project*. Also, you may send checks. Please make the check out to Saint Luke and note it is for the School Supplies Project. Thank you. This is always such an important outreach.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Mary Magdalene, Apostle–Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Sometimes called "the apostle to the apostles" because she told them of her encounter with the risen Lord, Mary was a woman of Galilee who followed Jesus throughout his ministry. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial.

Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, died 1373–Thursday, July 23, 2026

Birgitta married at age thirteen and had four daughters. Widowed at age thirty-eight, she gave all that she owned to the poor, and founded a community of monks and nuns led by a woman. Her work is continued today by the Society of St. Birgitta.

James, Apostle –Saturday, July 25, 2026

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

TODAY'S MUSIC

ELW 694 – Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

Music: Johann Steurlein, 1546-1613

Tune: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

ELW 172 – Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Music: Caribbean traditional;

arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

ELW 689 – Praise and Thanksgiving

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.

Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

Tune: BUNESSAN

ELW 686 – We Give Thee But Thine Own

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Music: L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantic Lauda, 1850

Tune: HEATH

LBW 212 – Let Us Break Bread Together

Text: African American spiritual

Music: African American spiritual; arr. *Contemporary Worship* 4, 1972

Tune: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

ELW 207 – Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and Music: ©1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress

ELW 516 – Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Music: J. Day, Psalter, 1562

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

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THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, July 19– Pentecost 8A

8:30am Tech Rehearsal

10:00am Worship (Hybrid)

11:00am Special Congregation Meeting

11:00am The Gathering

MONDAY, July 20

9:00am CDS Summer Camp

11:00am Riderwood Worship Service

5:30pm Stewardship Committee (Zoom)

TUESDAY, July 21

9:00am CDS Summer Camp

5:00pm Piano Lessons

WEDNESDAY, July 22

7:00am Faith Connections (Zoom)

9:00am CDS Summer Camp

THURSDAY, July 23

9:00am CDS Summer Camp

FRIDAY, July 24

9:00am CDS Summer Camp

6:00pm AA

SATURDAY, July 25

8:30pm AA

SUNDAY, July 26– Pentecost 9A

8:30am Tech Rehearsal

10:00am Worship (English)

11:00am The Gathering

11:00am Ushers' Meeting

1:00pm Worship (Spanish)

2:00pm The Gathering