

Pentecost Welcome to worship at Faith Lutheran Church

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

July 19, 2020

Worship Service

Print = Pastor or Worship Leader

Bold = Congregation

🎵 = Sing



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 when 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.

GATHERING

LIGHT CANDLE

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. *(Silence)*

Reconciling God,

We confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God + through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together the prayer of the day:

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.



WORD

The First Lesson is from Isaiah in the 44th chapter.

Isaiah 44:6-8 OT Page #747

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.

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 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. 8Do 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The psalm for today is **Psalm 86:11-17** will you please read it responsively with me.

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

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

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

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

**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.**

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

**Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant,
and save the child of your handmaid.**

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.

The Second Lesson is from the 8th chapter of **Romans**

Romans 8:12-25 NT Page #164

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.

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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 NT Page #14

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.

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.'" 36Then 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." 37He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43Then 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.

MESSAGE

OFFERING

We also encourage those who are able to continue to make their faithful, generous offerings to FAITH. We know that some will be unable to do this, especially if they lose their jobs or work hourly in an industry that has been hard-hit by this situation. If you are able those offerings can be mailed to the church.

PRAYER

Then enter into a time of prayer, sharing in prayer requests that you have received and praying for those specifically.

CLOSING

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**



BLESSING

May God who has claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the † Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PEACE

Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

EXTINGUISH CANDLE

