

Sorry I am a day late again this week. Pastoral Duty called once again as we gathered at Salem Lutheran in Mendon and sent a child of God to God's eternal safe keeping. But I did want to give you a chance to ponder at least for a couple of days before Sunday along with me. The Gospel text appointed for this Sunday in the Revised Common Lectionary is a continuation of Jesus telling parables in Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 and once again, as you can see, we skip a section. So, be sure to read through those skipped sections. We will pick up the mustard seed next week so it will be good for you all out there to be mulling that around in your head for a little longer than a week.

I have one simple pondering for you after you read this text about separating the wheat from the chaff. Who or what do we call weeds today, and who or what do we call the chaff today? It is interesting to me that the text says that the devil sowed the bad seeds - not God. If we are all created in the image of God then who or what really is this bad seed sown by the devil. When we get into a judging mode, are we capable of even doing so when up against this knowledge of not really knowing who or what the chaff is to us. Remember that a rose bush growing in a corn field is a weed and would be bound up and thrown into the fire at the harvest. I have a feeling that a prophetic sermon will be coming out of this text from me but I am sitting on it for just a little bit yet. Hope that this thought will stimulate your thinking.

One final nugget for you to think about - Martin Luther had a debate going with a person called Erasmus and they were going back and forth over an old heresy that Augustine and a guy named Pelagius were arguing over. And the basic question revolves around the question, "Do we have the Ability to Choose the good?" I will let you guess how Luther might have answered. Blessings on your ponderings today as you wrestle with the living word of God!

Peace,  
Pastor Jeff