

Full Service Bulletin

PRAISE SERVICE

JULY 23, 2023

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

VBS CELEBRATION

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Psalm 122:1)

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION

Prepare your heart for worship: read the introduction, look up the Scripture readings and pray. You may pray:

God of grace, You have given us minds to know You, hearts to love You, and voices to sing Your praise. Fill us with Your Spirit, that we may celebrate Your glory and worship You in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

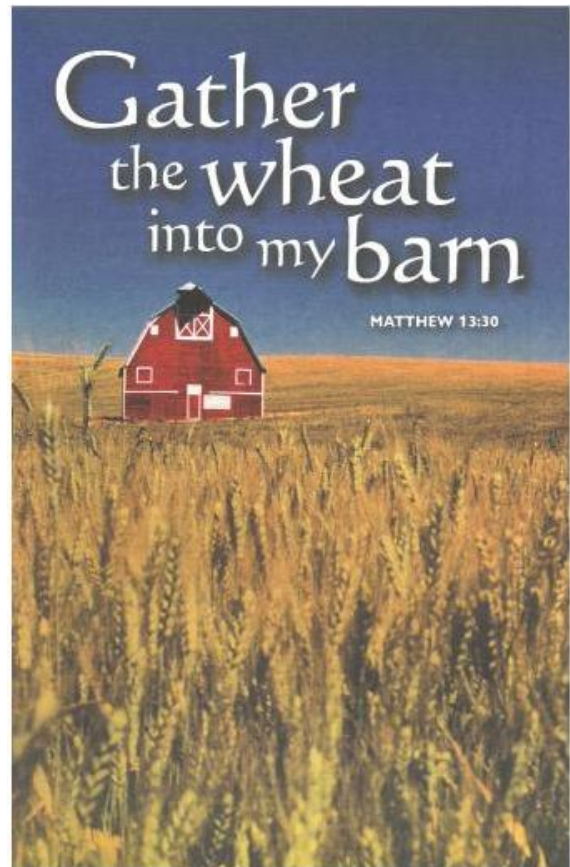
AMEN.

CHILDREN

We welcome children of all ages. The Children's Library is available if a child needs a break during the service.

INTRODUCTION

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



COMMEMORATION

***Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, died 1373** - 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.*

1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; Hith - er by Thy help I'm come.
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!

1 Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, Call for songs of loud - est praise.
 2 And I hope, by Thy good pleas - ure, Safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 3 Let Thy good - ness, like a fet - ter, Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee:

1 Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 2 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, Wan - dering from the fold of God.
 3 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love:

1 Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, Mount of Thy re - deem - ing love.
 2 He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 3 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

PRELUDE “*House of the Lord*” (VBS cd # 4)

WELCOME AND MEDITATION

GATHERING HYMN (*Please rise.*)

“*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*” (Maj # 30 - favorite)

INVOCATION (= *All may make the sign of the cross.*)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Who forgives all our sin,
Whose mercy endures forever.

C: AMEN.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the presence of God, Who sees our hearts and our minds, let
us confess our sin.

(Please kneel. Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.)

P: God our strength,

C: we confess that we are captive to the power of sin that dwells within us. We put ourselves first and others last. What we think will make us happy leaves us longing for more. Even when we want to do what is good, we find ourselves doing the opposite. Rescue us from death’s grip on our lives, and raise us up day by day, that we may be alive to God in Christ Jesus. AMEN.

P: Sisters and brothers, all have fallen short of the glory of God; therefore we are justified by God’s grace as a gift. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, in Whom we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation.

C: AMEN.

GREETING (*Please rise.*)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the life of the Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

WE PRAISE GOD’S NAME

With one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“Let all the peoples praise him.” (Romans 15:6,11)

HYMN OF PRAISE “*Oh, Worship the King*”

(Maj # 14 - favorite - Text: Robert Grant; Tune: J. Michael Haydn)

1 O wor - ship the King all glo - rious a - bove, And
 2 O tell of His might and sing of His grace, Whose
 3 Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, In

1 grate - ful - ly sing His won - der - ful love; Our
 2 robe is the light, whose can - o - py space; His
 3 breathes in the air, it shines in the light, It
 4 Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail; Thy

1 Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days, Pa -
 2 char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form, And
 3 streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain, And
 4 mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end, Our

1 vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 2 dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
 3 sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 4 Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er and Friend. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray together: C: O Lord, pour out upon us the Spirit to think and do what is right, that we, who cannot even exist without You, may have the strength to live according to Your will; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

RESPONSIVE READING....Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

(congregation reads indented)

O LORD, You have searched me

and You know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise;

You perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down;

You are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue

You know it completely, O LORD.

You hem me in—behind and before;

You have laid Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,

too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from Your Spirit?

Where can I flee from Your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, You are there;

if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,

if I settle on the far side of the sea,

even there Your hand will guide me,

Your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me

and the light become night around me,”

even the darkness will not be dark to You;

the night will shine like the day,

for darkness is as light to You.

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me,

and lead me in the way everlasting.



(Please sit. VBS participants come forward.)

PRAISE SONG “*Light of the World*” (VBS cd # 8 - Jay Stocker)

The world is searching for an answer,

A ray of hope in a hopeless world.

Who can we turn to?

Where is our rescue?

There is someone, He’s the answer.

He’s the light, and He’ll light the way.

His name is Jesus,

and He came to save us.

Chorus: **He is the light, light, light. Light of the world,
And He shine. shine, shines All over the earth,
Shining bright, bright, bright.**

He is the light of the world. (Repeat)

(Repeat from beginning)

Woh-oh, woh, Woh-oh, woh, Woh-oh, woh. Chorus

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

For everything was written to teach us, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

CHILDREN’S CHAT (8:30) Ruthann Kistler

PRAISE SONG “*This Little Light of Mine*”

(VBS cd track # 9 - Harry Dixon)

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

Even when I'm afraid, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x)

Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine. (3x)

FIRST READINGGenesis 28:1,10-22.....Pew Bible p. 43

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:12-25.....p. 1757

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Please rise.)*

“Come, Holy Spirit, melt and break ” verse 1

1 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, melt and break our stub - born hearts of stone,
 2 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, root in us God's liv - ing, ac - tive word,
 un - til we give our lives to God, and un - to God a - lone.
 that we may show the faith - ful - ness of Je - sus Christ our Lord.

Text: Zimbabwean traditional; tr. John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, Psalter, 1562

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPELMatthew 13:24-30, 34-43.....p. 1518

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *verse 2*

(Please sit. See outline in Announcements insert.)

SERMON *“How Awesome Is this Place!”*

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.
(Romans 15:13)

(Please rise.)

HYMN OF THE DAY “How Blessed Is This Place, O Lord” (LBW # 186; tune LBW # 278)

1 How bless-ed is this place, O Lord, where you are wor-shipped and a-dored;
2 Here let your sa-cred fire of old de-scent to kin-dle spir-its cold;
3 Here let the wea-ry one find rest, the trou-bled heart, your com-fort blest,
4 Here your an-gel-ic spir-its send their sol-emn praise with ours to blend,

in faith we here an al-tar raise to your great glo-ry, God of praise.
and may our prayers, when here we bend, like in-cense sweet to you as-cend.
the guilt-y one, a sure re-treat, the sin-ner, par-don at your feet.
and grant the vi-sion, in-ly giv'n, of this your house, the gate of heav'n.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt. Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis, c. 1505–1585

SMALL CATECHISM READING

L: Let us confess our faith by reading a portion of Luther's Small Catechism, *Part III. The Lord's Prayer*:

L: What is The Fourth Petition?

C: “Give us this day our daily bread;” (*Matthew 6:11*)

L: What does this mean?

C: Truly, God gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to evil people, but we pray in this request that He will help us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving.

L: What does “daily bread” mean?

C: Everything that nourishes our body and meets its needs, such as: Food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, yard, fields, cattle, money, possessions, a devout spouse, devout children, devout employees, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, discipline, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors and other things like these.

OFFERING

We no longer pass the plate, but your offerings are needed more than ever. The plate is located at the back of the center aisle. Please place your offering and your Communication Card there as you come in or go out. Thank You!

(Please sit.)

MISSION MOMENT 8:30 - VBS Report
10:45 - Worship Space

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Please kneel.)*

(Response: L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)

THE 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.

WE ARE SENT INTO GOD’S WORLD

Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isaiah 2:5)

BLESSING

P: The God of all grace, Who has called you to eternal glory in Christ, restore, support, strengthen, and bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit now and forever.

C: AMEN.

SENDING HYMN *(Please rise.)* “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

(WOV # 651 - favorite - Graham Kendrick)

Refrain

A E/A D A Bm B⁷ E

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;

A E/A D A Bm G E

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

A E/A D A Bm B⁷ E

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with love and mer - cy;

A E/A D A Bm E⁷ A D

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

To stanzas | *End*
E/A D A

A D A E/A A D

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

A E/A D E⁷ C[#]m F[#]m
 dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,
 D E⁷ C[#]m F[#]m G
 set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.
 Esus⁴ E G Esus⁴ E *Refrain*
 me, shine on me:

PASSING THE PEACE

L: As we leave to serve the Risen Lord in the power of His Spirit, let us share with one another some of the blessings of peace we have received. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

FELLOWSHIP AND REFRESHMENTS

Everyone is invited to remain for fellowship and refreshments. Snacks, coffee and hot water are available in the Gathering Place. You can brew your own coffee/tea using the Keurig® in the Parlor.

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SERVANTS OF THE LORD THIS WEEK

GREETER: 8:30-Sarah Barlow / 10:45-Darlene Treisner
SOUND: 8:30-Rich Stein / 10:45-Ken Yoxheimer
LIVE STREAM: 8:30-Mike Zyskowski
PROJECTOR: 8:30-Karen Brown / 10:45-Jim Femister
SONG LEADER: 8:30-Mike Zyskowski
LITURGIST: 8:30-Pat Gilbert / 10:45-**VOLUNTEER**
CHILDREN'S CHAT: 8:30-Ruthann Kistler
LECTOR: 8:30-Lauri Barlow / 10:45-Jim Femister
ALTAR GUILD: Alyce & Patty Stein
PHONETREE: Jonathan Mosebach
GRASS: Rich Stein, Jonathan Miller
COUNTERS: Karen Brown, Jan Stryker
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Mike Zyskowski
PRAYER CARE: Darlene Treisner call (610) 442-8494

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Ruthann Kistler in Celebration of VBS

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David L. Brown, *Pastor* † Ruthann Kistler, *Christian Ed. Dir.*
Nancy Cook, *Music Director* † Jonathan Mosebach, *Office Secretary*
Jim Steiner, *Sexton* † Karen Steiner, *Pre-school*
Lisa Wechsler, *Treasurer* † Glade Schroeter, *Webmaster*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 8:30 & 10:45 AM † Sunday School - 9:45 AM
(*Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays & Major Feasts*)

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