

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.

Matthew 13:30

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 19, 2020

Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel

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 mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Ten

The paraments are green during the season of Pentecost to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

✠ GATHERING ✠

ACCLAMATION

Timothy Olsen

Alleluia. My word shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. *Alleluia.*
(*Isaiah 55:11*)

OPENING VOLUNTARY Our Father, God in Heaven Above, BWV 683

J.S. Bach

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God 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.

Amen.

The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.

1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
 3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known
 4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:
 5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
 than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
 sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!
 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
 Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

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.

KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE



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. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: **Amen.**

We sit.

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING Isaiah 44:6-8

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. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

Refrain: Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth.

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

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

¹³For 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. **℟**

SECOND READING Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, 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 have 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, in fact, we 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 bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 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 is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30, 43-36

The holy gospel according to 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.**

We sit.

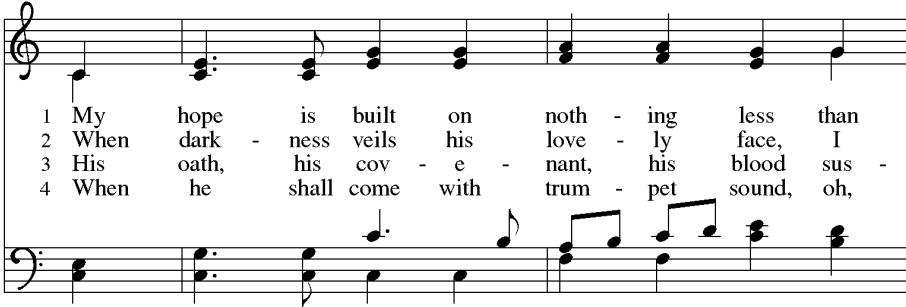
SERMON

Pastor Wollner

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY 597 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

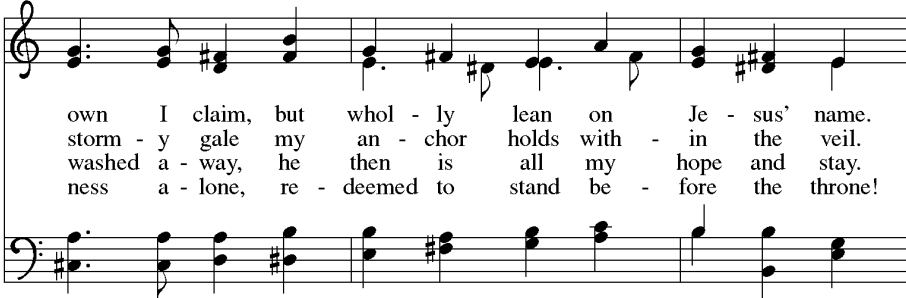
MELITA



1 My hope is built on nothing less than
2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I
3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh,

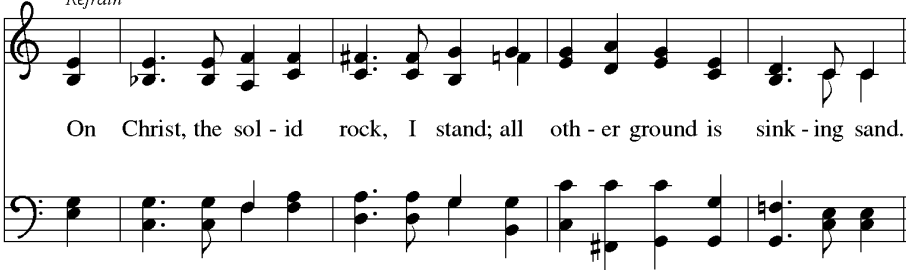


Je - sus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my
rest on his unchanging grace; in every high and
tain me in the raging flood; when all supports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righteousness -



own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.
washed away, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness alone, re-deemed to stand before the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

Each portion of the prayers concludes:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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

We sit.

✠ THANKSGIVING ✠

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Teach Me, O Lord

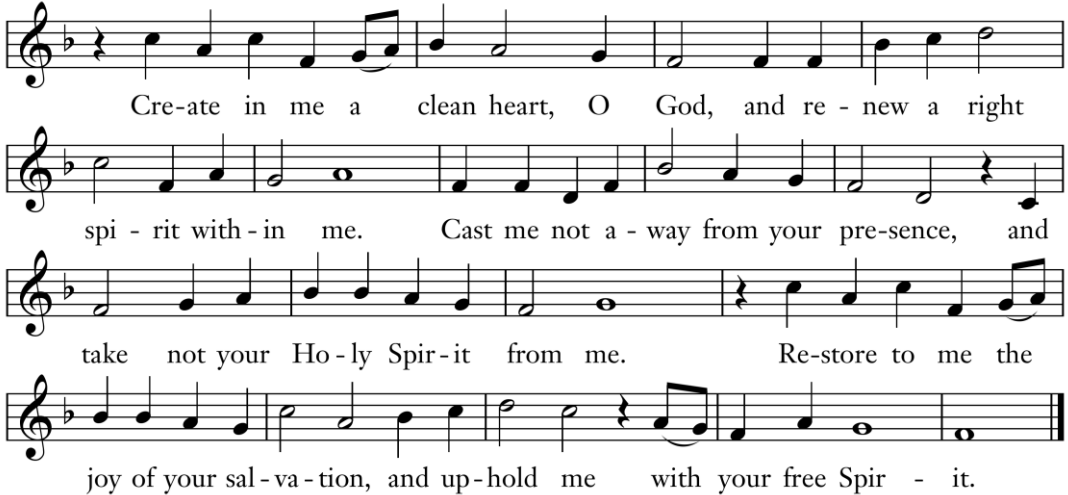
Thomas Attwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;

And I shall keep it unto the end.

We stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spi - rit with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pre - sence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

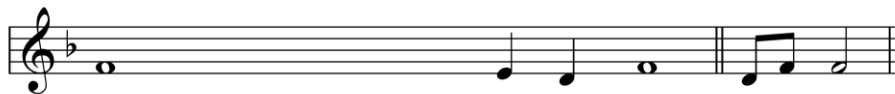
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING



The Lord bless you ... and ✠ give you peace. A - men.

SENDING HYMN 679 For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
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 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY March in D

David N. Johnson

Soli Deo Gloria

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AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod

Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Kathy Barnes, Administrative Assistant

Leigh Anna Voigt, Dir. of Faith Formation

Bruce Tippet, Youth Music and Handbell Dir.

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Hannah Norem, Interim Youth and Communications Assistant

Reggie Jackson, Lead Sexton

Carl Davis and John Stepney, Sextons

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Announcements

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of their parents, Fred and Ita Kooken, and Walter and Ruth Dreier, by Keith and Ruth Kooken.

This week we keep in prayer Leah Dell Chandler, 7531 Fair Oak Drive, Apt. 105, Clemmons, NC 27012-8098. Please send **Leah** a note.

A reminder that a called meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday, August 2, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom and phone options. The primary purpose of this meeting is to consider and vote upon an Outdoor Gathering Space to be built when the previously planned demolition of the house on the far west end of the property occurs. Please save the date; you will receive further communications regarding this meeting via USPS and Flocknote. The Council also voted to continue the current facility policy through August 15. The Council also established a Task Force to identify the needs, policies and procedures that need to be put in place prior to us returning to worship or other Augsburg events.

New Intergenerational Sunday School class begins: This morning we met for week two of an eight-week intergenerational Sunday School class exploring the challenges that our community and our nation currently face. You are invited to join the pastors as we explore matters related to racism, poverty, policy setting, and other issues that need to be discussed. Each week will have a different topic with different preparation materials. Even if you cannot be present at all classes, you are still welcome anytime you are available. The preparation materials for each week, should average about 15-30 minutes of your time prior to that Sunday morning. The class will take place on Sunday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Please email Pastor Paul at seniorpastor@alcws.org if you would like to participate.

Pastor Paul's online Bible study will continue Tuesday at 2 p.m.! Pastor Paul will conclude his four-week series, "Water, Water – Everywhere! Why Water is such a big part of the Scriptures." Instructions for being part of the Bible study are sent each Monday via Flocknote.

Save the date for the next Food Drive to support Christ's Beloved Community Food Pantry: We will be collecting non-perishable food items on Thursday, July 30, at the same three locations across our community as the last time. Please check your July 16th Flocknote for more information.

Altar Flower Dedications. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the beautiful altar flowers each week. If you are interested in dedicating flowers as a memorial or in honor of a loved one, please call the church office for more information. We currently have open slots for Sept. 20, and Oct. 4, 11, and 18.

We keep you in prayer during our time apart. Our pastors continue to be available for your pastoral care needs. If you would like to reach a pastor, please call their cell phones, send them a text, or an email. Pastor Paul is 803-331-5970 or seniorpastor@alcws.org and Pastor Lori is 336-414-2838 or pastoralassociate@alcws.org.

The Efrid L. and Maria F. Hine Fund committee will meet for its Summer Quarter meeting on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Agendas are ready for members to pick up in the Work Room. Please call or email Kris Andrews if you are unable to attend the meeting. The general purpose and intent of the Hine Fund is to “put into effect a ministry of Christian mercy and concern in meeting human needs as the Church thinks Jesus Christ Himself would have them met.”

God’s work continues at Augsburg, and while we can’t gather in person, our hands can still help carry out that work wherever we are through our love and our resources. Because important ministries continue during our facilities closure, offerings can still be shared through any of these suggested options: drop it in the mail, use the bill pay services that your bank offers, or use Realm to give online. Visit our website—www.augsburglutheran-ws.org—and click on “Give Now” for more information. Thank you for all the ways that you support God’s work at Augsburg, your Stewardship Team.

Readings for next week: 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

Worship attendance for services last week: 219 views on **YouTube**.

Providing Service Today

Bulletin Cover Artist

Penny Cuka

Lay Reader

Robin Welch

Preaching

Pastor Wollner

Quartet

Karen Kooken, Robert Matthews, Daniele Olsen, Timothy Olsen

Greeters

The Richardson Family

Assisting Minister

Hannah Norem