



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MADISON, ALABAMA

July 19, 2026
8th Sunday after Pentecost



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.

Good Morning and Welcome!

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

ORDER OF WORSHIP 8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Bread of Life from With One Voice

** Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE “Revelation Song” (Riddle)

Band (Stephen Strand, Director)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.**

***GATHERING SONG** “Tremble”

BIN 67

Verse 1

Peace bring it all to peace
The storms surrounding me
Let it break at Your name

Verse 2

Still call the sea to still
The rage in me to still
Every wave at Your name

Chorus

Jesus Jesus You make the darkness tremble
Jesus Jesus You silence fear
Jesus Jesus You make the darkness tremble
Jesus Jesus

Verse 3

Breathe call these bones to live
Call these lungs to sing
Once again I will praise

Bridge

Your name is a light that the shadows can't
deny
Your name cannot be overcome
Your name is alive forever lifted high
Your name cannot be overcome

***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.**

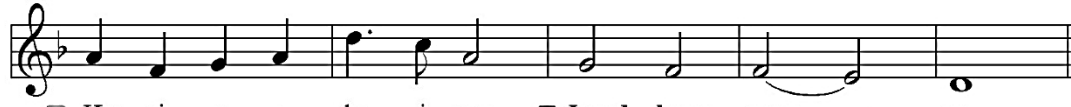
KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Glory to God"



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

II you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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.**

PSALM

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

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ 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. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ 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!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ 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. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ 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. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ 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 FANFARE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



* GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ 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?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ 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.’ ”

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

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Keith ‘Cook

***HYMN OF THE DAY “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”**

ELW 516



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.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.
Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

***CREED**

2025-2026 Confirmation Class

We believe in God, who created all there is and ever will be.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, who was created by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus was made to suffer, hung on a cross, died and was buried. Jesus descended to the dead, rose on the third day, ascended into heaven and is now at the Father's right hand where he will judge all humans past and present.

We believe that through Jesus we are saved.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the worldwide church, that our sins are forgiven, and that we have been promised that we will live in God's kingdom forever. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of grace, hear our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

OFFERING “Jesus Our Judge and Our Savior”

Band

***PRESENTATION OF GIFTS “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord”**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



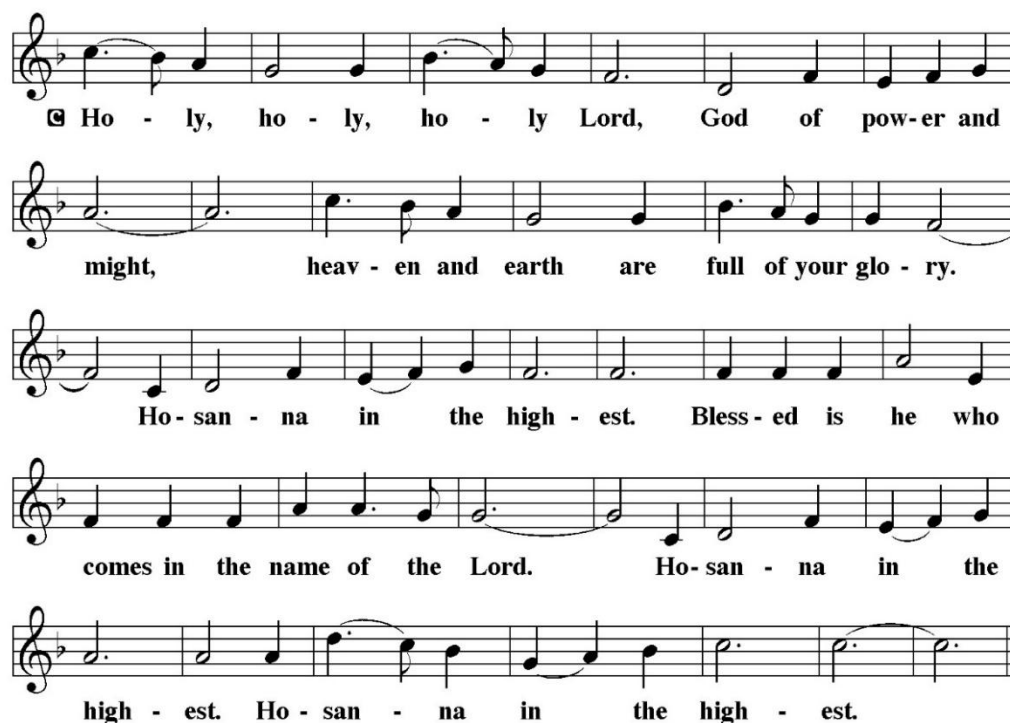
***OFFERING PRAYER**

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 & PREFACE**

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.

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

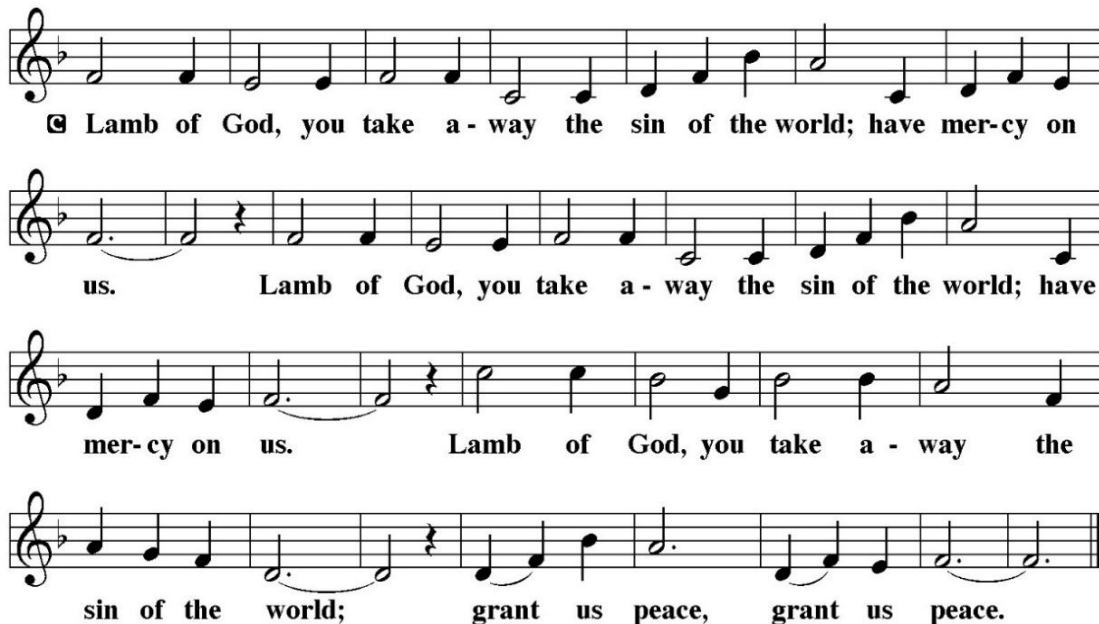
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace." The lyrics are placed below the corresponding musical notes.

DISTRIBUTION "One Thing Remains"

BIN 62

Verse 1

Higher than the mountains that I face
Stronger than the power of the grave
Constant in the trial and the change
One thing remains
One thing remains

Interlude

Your love Your love Your love will never
change

Chorus

Your love never fails
It never gives up
Never runs out on me
(REPEAT)

Your love

Verse 2

On and on and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains

Bridge

In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love
(REPEAT)

Ending

Your love

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

*BLESSING

Chorus

Let ev’rything that
Ev’rything that
Ev’rything that has breath
Praise the Lord
Let ev’rything that
Ev’rything that
Ev’rything that has breath
Praise the Lord

Verse 1

Praise You in the morning
Praise You in the evening
Praise You when I’m young
And when I’m old
Praise You when I’m laughing
Praise You when I’m grieving
Praise You ev’ry season of the soul

Bridge

If we (they) could see
How much You’re worth
Your pow’r Your might
Your endless love
Then surely we would
Never cease to praise

Verse 2

Praise You in the heavens
Joining with the angels
Praising You forever and a day
Praise You on the earth now
Joining with creation
Calling all the nations to Your praise

***DISMISSAL**

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

POSTLUDE “Let Everything That Has Breath” (Instrumental)



WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Lindsey & the Porter Family
Kevin
Leighann
Connie Stanger

Victoria Zutter
Brittany
Stephen
David

Rich
Bob Gustafson
Greg Beamer

THANK YOU PASTER COOK! We appreciate you preaching and leading worship today!

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Matthew and Jutta DeMarsh.

A NURSERY staffed by Hannah Seitz, is available through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

DINNER THEATRE -- SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 6:00 P.M. Messiah presents The Tragedy of Orpheus, A Comedy -- an evening of merriment, laughs and great food for a great cause! Tickets on sale until Sunday, July 26th. Purchase online using QR code, after worship on Sunday or by contacting Laura Peterson at lpeterson256.lp@gmail.com or the office. All proceeds benefit Lunches for Learning.



PASTOR KRIS CONTINUING EDUCATION -- AWAY MONDAY, JULY 13 TO MONDAY, JULY 20. If the need for emergent pastoral care arises while Pastor is away, please contact the church office. If you have a prayer request for the Sunday bulletin or for the prayer chain, please contact the church office or email prayerchain@mlutheran.org.

KIT MINISTRY – Crayons (24 ct box)

FOOD PANTRY – Bars / Crackers

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, July 19

8:30 a.m. - Adult Bible Study

9:30 a.m. – *Band Led Service of Worship Bread of Life WOV with the Lord's Supper

10:30 a.m. - Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 21

6:30 p.m. - Pub Theology w/ Potluck

Wednesday, July 22

7:00 p.m. - Dinner Theater Rehearsal

Thursday, July 23

6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

Sunday, July 26

8:30 a.m. - Adult Bible Study

9:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship ELW Setting Two with the Lord's Supper

LOOKING AHEAD

August 7 - Dinner Theater Dress Rehearsal

August 8 - Dinner Theater: The Tragedy of Orpheus, A Comedy

August 9 - Sunday Worship returns to 2 services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

August 9 - Rally Day! / Backpack and Teacher Blessing

August 23 - Blessing of Quilts / Kits

August 30 - Loading of LWR Truck

ATTENDANCE June 28 Online: 36

July 5: 9:30 – 67

Ushers

Paul Arnold, Claire Strand

Lector

Timothy Pitchko

Altar Guild

Karen Arnold

Stream Team

Daniel Hopkin, Lee Seitz

Flower Guild

Jutta DeMarsh

Pastor

Kristine Schroeder

Director of Music

Randall Fields

Organist/Accompanist

Melanie Payne

Communications Director

Jan Morrison

Office Manager

Jill Casey