

# *Gather the wheat into my barn*

**MATTHEW 13:30**



## Complete Worship Folder

July 23, 2023 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

July 26, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

## ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

8695 Gratiot Road Saginaw, MI 48609 (989)781-2170

Email address: [ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ascensionlc@sbcglobal.net)

Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

## **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

### Welcome and Announcements

---

Hymn: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" (ELW 693)

Come, ye thankful people, come;  
raise the song of harvest home.  
All be safely gathered in  
ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,  
fruit unto his praise to yield;  
wheat and tares together sown,  
unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come  
and shall take his harvest home;  
from his field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away;  
give his angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast,  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in his garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come  
to thy final harvest home.  
Gather then thy people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified,  
in thy garner to abide.  
Come, with all thine angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home!

Public Domain.

### **Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray... **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.**

Children's Message (10:30 a.m.)

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

<sup>6</sup>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.  
<sup>7</sup>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.  
<sup>8</sup>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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup>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.  
<sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>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!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>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.  
<sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation: “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!” (ELW 413 Verse 1 Only)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Public Domain.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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

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

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “The Reign of God, like Farmer’s Field” (ACS 952)

The reign of God, like farmer's field,  
bears weeds along with wheat;  
the good and bad are intertwined  
till harvest is complete.

The reign of God is like a pearl  
on barren land concealed.  
If once you find that precious pearl,  
go out and buy that field.

Though hidden now, the reign of God  
may, yet unnoticed, grow;  
from deep within it rises up,  
like yeast in swelling dough.

Like mustard tree, the reign of God  
from tiny seed will spread,  
till birds of ev'ry feather come  
to nest, and there be fed.

The reign of God is come in Christ;  
the reign of God is near.  
Ablaze among us, kindling hearts,  
the reign of God is here!

Apostles' Creed (8 a.m. & 7 p.m.)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

Baptism (10:30 a.m.)

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...Hear us, O God,

**Congregation responds...Your mercy is great.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Song: "Come to the Table" (ELW 481)

Come to the table of mercy,  
prepared with the wine and the bread.  
All who are hungry and thirsty,  
come, and your souls will be fed.  
Come at the Lord's invitation;  
receive from his nail-scarred hand.  
Eat of the bread of salvation;  
drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

A: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

Thanksgiving

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer (sung)

*“Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen”*

Public Domain

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

Communion Songs: “Beautiful Savior” (ELW 838)

Beautiful Savior,  
King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee,  
truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows,  
fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine,  
fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior,  
Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!

Public Domain.

“As the Grains of Wheat” (ELW 465)

**Refrain** As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.

As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. **Refrain**

Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. **Refrain**

“One Bread, One Body” (ELW 496)

**Refrain** One bread, one body, one Lord of all;  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
woman or man, no more. **Refrain**

Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all. **Refrain**

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one for all. **Refrain**

Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

Blessing

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Song: “For the Fruit of All Creation” (ELW 679)

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Dismissal

A: As an open and progressive congregation,

**C: we boldly make Christ's vision known.**

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Reign of God, life Farmer's Field, Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939 Text © 1995, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

Come to the Table, Claire Cloninger, Martin J. Nyström CCLI Song #675056 © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Curb Word Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #2006453

As the Grains of Wheat, Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

One Bread, One Body, Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939 Text © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

For the Fruit of All Creation, Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000 Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-715124. All rights reserved

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright ©2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006501. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.