8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **JULY 19, 2026**

GREETING
P: Gathered in Christ.
C: We serve with grace.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen. *(Matthew 28:19b; [18:20])*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *(1 John 1:8–9)*

Kneel/Stand ~ Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C: Most merciful God, we confess that our lives and our world have been corrupted by sin. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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."

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19–23]*
C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG *"Oh Holy Spirit Enter In"*..... #786

PRAYER OF THE DAY
C: 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.

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.
C: Thanks be to God.

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.
C: Thanks be to God.
KIDS TALK

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
P: *Alleluia.*
C: My word shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. *Alleluia.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 13:24-30, 36-43
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.
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!" The gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"* ..... #693

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. (*We pray especially for . . .*) God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.
C: Amen.

PEACE
P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG "*GIVE THANKS*"
C: Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the holy one. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say I am strong. Let the poor say I am rich; because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks. Give thanks.

OFFERING PRAYER
P: 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.
C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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 in remembrance of me."

Through him all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.
C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION HYMN *"Lamb of God"*..... Setting 4 #154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
P: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
C: Amen.

BLESSING
P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✢ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C: Amen.

SENDING SONG "*Sing to the Lord of Harvest"* ..... #694

RINGING OF THE BELLS

SONG OF PEACE
C: My peace I give unto you. It's a peace that the world cannot give. It's a peace that the world cannot understand; peace to know; peace to live. My peace I give unto you.

DISMISSAL
P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C: Thanks be to God.