



July 19, 2026 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER

In our Gospel reading this morning, Jesus lays three parables before the crowds and us. He tells them the parable of the weeds in the field, the parable of the mustard seed, and the parable of the leaven. All three parables share a common theme. They look at the kingdom of heaven – the reign of God that is now happening in Jesus’ ministry – and what it is like *in that moment*. The reign of God was not and is not happening how the crowds in Jesus’ day or how people today would expect. It looks weird, different, small, and perhaps even insignificant. And yet, Jesus shows in these parables that it will not always be this way. The harvest is coming. The mustard seed will grow. The leaven will leaven all 10 gallons of flour. But as they wait for what is to come, in the meantime, they should look to Jesus, be encouraged even in the face of what looks discouraging, and trust Jesus’ work.

WELCOME

HYMN *LSB 509, “Christ Is Surely Coming”*

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us take a moment of silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"This is the Feast" (Music and words in hymnal, LSB 155)*

All: Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Refrain

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. Refrain

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation; Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. Final Refrain

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

CATECHISM *The Sixth Commandment (Exodus 20:14; LSB 321)*

Pastor: What is the sixth commandment?

People: You shall not commit adultery.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

OLD TESTAMENT 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 him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will

happen.⁸ Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalms 119:57–64*

Pastor: The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

People: **I entreat your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.**

Pastor: When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies;

People: **I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.**

Pastor: Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law.

People: **At midnight I rise to praise you, because of your righteous rules.**

Pastor: I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts.

People: **The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes!**

EPISTLE READING *Romans 8:18–27*

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 13:24–35*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the thirteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴ He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’ ³¹ He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants

and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”³³ He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.”³⁴ All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable.³⁵ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet: “I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY *LSB 892, “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*

SERMON *“It Will Not Always Be This Way”*

NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answer us, O Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 159-160)*

All: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,

In the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

THE COMMUNION CONFESSION

Pastor: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

People: **I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is truly present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life. (Augsburg Confession-Article X)**

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 161)*

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You ... one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: **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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 163)*

All: Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRUBUTION HYMNS

LSB 637, "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

LSB 728, "How Firm a Foundation"

LSB 575, "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

THANK THE LORD *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 164)*

All: Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN *LSB 923, "Almighty Father, Bless the Word"*

CLOSING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve your neighbor.

People: Thanks be to God!

Next Week's Readings: July 26, 2026 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

Psalms 125

Romans 8:28-39

Matthew 13:36-50

Service adapted from Divine Service setting 1 (LSB 151-166).



ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of July 19, 2026

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Daniel Heitshusen

Cell: 832-727-3135 pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Matthew Springer

First Lutheran, Neosho - Rev. Steve Gilmore

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Becky (Cheryl Lile's friend – fighting an infection)
 Ardella – (health and healing)
 Tammy Ardrey – (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
 Bruce Banks – (friend of Teri Ediger)
 Rick Bauer – (Gladys' son – health and healing)
 Jeannie Bennett – (relative of Teri Ediger – health and healing)
 Blazi – (friend of Jaycee & Ty – health and healing)
 Treasa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – (health and healing)
 Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson–health and healing)
 Teri Ediger – (health and healing from surgery)
 Kyle and family – (grandson to Cathy Munden, son of Teri)
 McGee family – (health and healing)
 Glenda – (Teri Ediger's step–mother – health and healing)

Long Term

Gladys Bauer – (health and healing)
 Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
 Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
 Rev. Johannes Brann – (health and healing/peace and comfort)
 Rev. Brian and Jessica Chisamore – (health and healing for Jessica)
 Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)
 Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
 Mary Ann Campbell – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
 Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken–hip)
 Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
 Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)
 Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
 Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
 Betty Gordon – (health and healing)

Sharon Crandall (health & healing)
 Tessie Holle – (cousin of Kathy Holle)
 Family of Jamie – (friend of Jaycee & Ty – health and healing)
 Janet – (Darlene Lampe's son–in–law's mother)
 Aaron (grandson of Bill & Joanne)
 Beverly Lofton – (friend of Cathy Munden – health and healing)
 Family of Eldrid Holle (Kathy Holle's uncle)
 Bill Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – health and healing)
 Rebecca – (Kathy Holle's relative – health and healing from cancer)
 Emma S. – (recovery after hospital stay)
 Tim Tucek– (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
 Baby Vada – (Cathy Munden's great grandchild – health and healing)
 Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)

Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)
 Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)
 Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
 Mitzie Lorenz – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
 Jeeper Meyer – (health and healing from cancer)
 Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's sister–In–Law – health & healing)
 Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
 Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
 LC Stalcup – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health and healing)
 Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
 Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
 Bill Thompson – (health and healing)
 June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

		WEEK
Sunday	July 19th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour, Bible Study 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with communion
Monday	July 20th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm
Thursday	July 23rd	No Confirmation
Friday	July 24th	Pastor's Day Off
Sunday	July 26th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour, Bible Study 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service
Monday	July 27th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

Birthdays: July 26-Ardella Frerichs
Anniversaries: July 19-Larry & Jodi Wright

July

Greeters

19: Charlie & Edith Chambers
26: Bill and Joanne Michel

Ushers

19: Charlie Chambers
26: Matthew Springer



NO Joint Service! We will NOT have a joint worship service at Trinity on August 16. We WILL meet here at Grace just like normal!

(See notes on back page)

LWML invites all ladies to a Mother/Daughter/Friend Salad supper on Monday, August 3, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity Lutheran School in Freistatt. It's a Route 66 themed evening with a Photo Booth perfect for a great backdrop. We have two speakers — one to show us how to take better photos with our cell phones, including selfies, and the next to show us some ways to look better in photos taken. We'll be taking photos, and if willing, we'll share them on the white board — before and afters! It should be a fun evening with lots of laughs, so mark your calendar and join us.