



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 30, 2017**



PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and
of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(A brief silence.)*
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done
and things we have failed to do. Turn us
again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

**God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days,**

**Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
let we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

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

C: Amen

INTRODUCTION

P: As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl,

a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

C: **Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



"Let the little children come to me..."

Matthew 19:14 NIV

Children's Church

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from 1 Kings, the 3rd chapter.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you;

and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted.

Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word.

Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind;
no one like you has been before you and no
one like you shall arise after you.”

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A RESPONSIVE READING ~ PSALM 119

R: Your decrees are wonderful; therefore,
I obey them with all my heart.

C: **When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**

R: I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

**C: Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love
your name.**

R: Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

**C: Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**

R: Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.

**C: My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep
your teaching.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:31-39

A reading from Romans, the 8th chapter.

What then are we to say about these things?

If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



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 13:31-33, 44-52

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.

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

Jesus put before the crowds another parable:

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So, it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?”

They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them,
“Therefore every scribe who has been trained
For the kingdom of heaven is like the master
of a household who brings out of his treasure
what is new and what is old.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON
“Treasures of the Kingdom”

HYMN OF THE DAY “*Be Thou My Vision*”

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

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

P: Generous, compassionate God, we gather before you to pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *(A brief silence.)* Shine the light of understanding on your church on earth. Bind us together in the word to share your love with the world.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Protect birds and their nests, fields full of crops, the seas and the fish that swim in them. Inspire us to care for the creation you love. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Raise up just and wise advocates and judges from small-town courts to international tribunals. Enlighten all leaders to discern what is right and do what is good. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Nurture faith in those who doubt. Lift up those who are weak in body, mind, or spirit. Heal the sick, comfort the grieving, and surround with love those facing their last days (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Expand the understanding of this assembly to see our neighbors as you see them. Let the yeast of your word grow beyond us to expand your boundless love to those around us. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Sustain us by the intercession of your Holy Spirit. Let the Spirit's sighs, too deep for words, comfort us until we rejoice with those already united with you (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands we place all our prayers,
spoken and unspoken, trusting in the
mercy of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING THE OFFERING ~
“Build Your Kingdom Here”
by Rend Collective

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*We give thee but thine own,
whatever the gifts may be
All that we have is thine alone,
a trust, oh Lord, from thee.*

*May we thy bounties thus,
as stewards true receive,
And gladly as though blessed us,
to thee our first fruits give.*

*We Give
Thee But Thine Own*

The logo consists of the words 'We Give Thee But Thine Own' in a mix of red and black cursive fonts. The word 'Give' is the largest and features a small red heart icon above the letter 'i'. The words 'Thee But' are smaller and positioned below 'We'. The words 'Thine Own' are also smaller and positioned below 'Give'.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

DIALOGUE

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 and praise to the
Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

~ ***COMMUNION*** ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace
and mercy. The Lord look upon you with
favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “*Choral Benediction*”

May the light of God shine on us today.

May the light of God shine on us today.

May it show us where to travel,

lead us back if we should stray,

May the light of God shine on us today.

**May the love of God live in us today.
May the love of God live in us today.
May the warmth we feel within us,
show in all we do and say,
May the love of God live in us today.**

**May the peace of God be with us today.
May the peace of God be with us today.
May it guide us and protect us,
as we go our separate ways,
May the peace of God be with us today.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



























































