The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
St. John Tide
July 18-19, 2026
Divine Service, Setting Four, p. 203

Prelude

Confession and Absolution (*stand*) p. 203

Entrance Hymn "Praise and Thanksgiving" LSB 789

Kyrie and Gloria p. 204

Collect of the Day

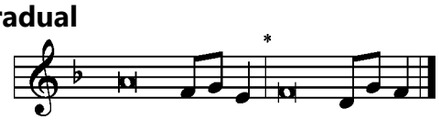
O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,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

Amen. (*sit*)

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."

A This is the word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

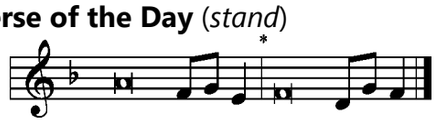
Gradual Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle 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 decay 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.

A This is the word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day (*stand*) Isaiah 40:8

C **Alleluia, alleluia!**
A I will open my mouth in | parables;*
I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation | of the world.
C **Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[24]Jesus] 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.
[36]Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to 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 is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, [39]and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. [40]Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. [41]The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, [42]and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. [43]Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed p. 206

Hymn of the Day (*sit*) "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" LSB 892

Sermon "Wheat and Weeds: Who's Choking Whom?" Matthew 14: 24-30, 36-43

Prayer of the Church (*stand*) *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

Offering (*sit*)

Preface (*stand*) p. 208

Sanctus

Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 209

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei p. 210

Distribution (*sit*) "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" LSB 761

1 **Rock of Ages, cleft for me,**
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2 **Not the labors of my hands**
Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

3 **Nothing in my hand I bring;**
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 **While I draw this fleeting breath,**
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Nunc Dimittis (*stand*) p. 211

Post-Communion Collect p. 212

Benedicamus and Benediction

Closing Hymn "On What Has Now Been Sown" LSB 921

Postlude

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