

# Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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## The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 19, 2020



**Color of the Day:** Green - suggesting spiritual growth and maturity. There is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "green meadow" time of the church year is so lengthy. Time must be given to encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace.

### OPENING HYMN

#839 - O Christ, Our True and Only Light



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en  
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now  
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may  
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the  
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now  
lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose  
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science  
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who  
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.  
in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.  
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.  
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,  
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

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### + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(Kneel/Stand)

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** 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.

**C** Amen.

(Stand)

## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

### INTROIT

*Psalm 86:11–15; antiphon: v. 6*

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*

listen to my | plea for grace.

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk | in your truth;\*

unite my heart to | fear your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,\*

and I will glorify your name for- | ever.

For great is your steadfast | love toward me;\*

you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men | seek my life,\*

and they do not set you be- | fore them.

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious,\*

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and | faithfulness.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*

listen to my | plea for grace.

### KYRIE



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.  
 (Sit)

**OLD TESTAMENT 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 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. <sup>8</sup>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*

<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>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.
- (Stand)

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## 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.**

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup>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?’ <sup>28</sup>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?’ <sup>29</sup>But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>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.’” . . .

<sup>36</sup>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.” <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 is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup>and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place 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. He who has ears, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## NICENE CREED

**C** 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

(Sit)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY

#663 - Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -  
2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find  
3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat  
4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -  
5 But while watch - ing, al - so pray To the Lord un - ceas -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -  
you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and  
you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and  
fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy  
ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and faith in -



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a  
blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -  
cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less  
sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your  
creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.  
cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.  
friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.  
hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.  
nite to serve Him And for - ev - er love Him.

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## SERMON

### Weeding the Garden

Matthew 13:24-30 (36-43)

#### Introduction

Last week we heard Jesus tell \_\_\_\_\_.

#### The Parable and Its Meaning

Our text for this morning takes the liberty to skip \_\_\_\_\_.

Just like the parable from last week \_\_\_\_\_.

On the other hand, the one who sows bad seed \_\_\_\_\_.

The end result is that \_\_\_\_\_.

#### The Parable Today

The people to whom Jesus spoke this parable \_\_\_\_\_.

Today we live in a \_\_\_\_\_.

And, as Jesus told His disciples, so He reminds us \_\_\_\_\_.

Thus, we realize that our work until the end is \_\_\_\_\_.

## So, What?

Jesus says, \_\_\_\_\_

So, we are continually reminded \_\_\_\_\_

"We hear," when the Word of God \_\_\_\_\_

It is fascinating that even though we are hearing Jesus' words \_\_\_\_\_

For us, Christians, the good news, \_\_\_\_\_

## Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor's blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez's new blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/> (Stand)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Sit)

### OFFERING

### + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

(Stand)

### PREFACE

**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 Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** 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  $\text{†}$  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  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

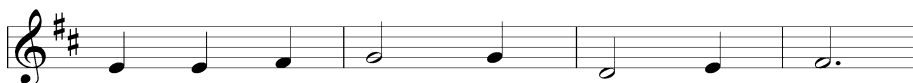
## AGNUS DEI



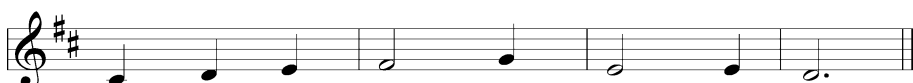
**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Sit)

## DISTRIBUTION

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#670 - *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, Bright  
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, More  
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, Ye  
 Δ 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, Su -



ser - aphs, cher - u - bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain:  
 glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, Lead their prais - es:  
 pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia,  
 per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia,



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
 "Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
 al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly Twelve, ye mar - tyrs  
 al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow'rs, Vir - tues, arch - an - gels, an - gels'  
 Word, Most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the  
 strong, All saints tri - um - phant, raise the  
 Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in



choirs: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 Lord: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 song: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 One: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!"

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### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#570 - *Just as I Am, Without One Plea*



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy  
 2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a  
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to  
 soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each  
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -  
 heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#735 - *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle  
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle  
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -  
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to

flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -  
God, For He stays close be - side you, In

give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!  
all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

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(Stand)

## NUNC DIMITTIS

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

**A** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

#920 - *Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go*



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;  
2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;  
3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth  
4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;  
5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;  
King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;  
This world of time to con - se - crate,  
Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim  
That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,  
With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,  
This world of sin by grace to heal,  
Christ's truth in love that we may be  
Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.  
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.  
Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.  
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.  
True peace, true love to all man - kind.

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