



“Wheat and Weeds”

Sunday, July 19, 2020 at 11:00 am

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(Contemporary Service)

AS WE GATHER

Why must we endure the questions, the challenges, and the things that are not as they should be? The disciples long ago wondered about this too. Why are there weeds in God’s field and what can be done about it? The seed was good, but God has enemies, and so do you. It is not given to us to resolve this until the Lord’s time, when He will separate the weeds from the wheat. It is enough for us to know that God knows the hearts of people and that this tension will not endure. When Jesus comes in His glory, the angels will gather out of His kingdom all who do not belong. Then the righteous shall shine like the sun, so take heart, people of God.

Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk ().*

THE PRELUDE

Praise Team

RINGING OF THE BELL

THE WELCOME AND VIDEO GREETING

Pastor Chris Matthis

***OPENING MEDLEY**

"Glorious"

Brenton Brown

**Look inside the mystery, see the empty cross
See the risen Savior, victorious and strong
No one else above Him, none as strong to save
He alone has conquered the power of the grave**

**Glorious, my eyes have the seen the glory of the Lord
Glorious, He stands above the rulers of the earth**

**Look beyond the tombstone, see the living God
See the resurrected, the ruler of my heart
No one else above Him, none to match His worth
The hope of His returning fills the universe**

**Glorious, my eyes have the seen the glory of the Lord
Glorious, He stands above the rulers of the earth
Glorious, glorious, Lord, You are glorious**

**Glorious, my eyes have the seen the glory of the Lord
Glorious, He stands above the rulers of the earth
Glorious, glorious, Lord, You are glorious**

Glory in the highest

"Great I AM"

Jared Anderson

**I want to be close, close to Your side
So heaven is real and death is, a lie
I want to hear voices of angels above
Singing as one**

**Hallelujah, holy, holy
God almighty, the great I am
Who is worthy, none beside Thee
God almighty, the great I am**

**I want to be near, near to Your heart
Loving the world and hating the dark
I want to see dry bones living again
Singing as one**

**Hallelujah, holy, holy
God almighty, the great I am
Who is worthy, none beside Thee
God almighty, the great I am**

**The mountains shake before Him the demons run and flee
At the mention of the name king of majesty
There is no pow'r in hell or any who can stand
Before the power and the Presence of the great I am
The great I am, the great I am
The great I am, the great I am
The great I am**

**Hallelujah, holy, holy
God almighty, the great I am
Who is worthy, none beside Thee
God almighty, the great I am
The great I am
The great I am, the great I am**

**The mountains shake before Him the demons run and flee
At the mention of the name king of majesty
There is no pow'r in hell or any who can stand
Before the power and the Presence of the great I am
The great I am, the great I am
The great I am, the great I am
The great I am**

“What a Beautiful Name”

Ben Fielding
Brooke Ligertwood

**You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ**

**What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus**

**You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now?**

What a wonderful Name it is

What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again
You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all Names

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and for ever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all Names

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
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+ PREPARATION +

*INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Give ear, O Lord, to the prayers of Your people, and listen to their cry for mercy.

People: **You, O Lord, are a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Silence for self-examination

Pastor: Lord of mercy,

People: **we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in You there is the fullness of righteousness and an abundance of mercy. We are poor sinners whose thoughts, words, and deeds betray our weakness and death. You, O Lord, are gracious and merciful and, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, You have saved us by His blood. Give to us true repentance that we know Your forgiveness and the comfort of a clear conscience. Give us also hearts made new by Your grace, that we love You above all things and our neighbors as ourselves and, by Your Holy Spirit, do what is pleasing in Your sight. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, our Savior, you have been made the children of God in Baptism and live because of His mercy. 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.**

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 44:6-8

(Besides Me there is no god.)

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.
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.
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.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 119:57-64

Pastor: The LORD is my portion;

People: I promise to keep Your words.

Pastor: I entreat Your favor with all my heart;

People: be gracious to me according to Your promise.

Pastor: When I think on my ways,

People: I turn my feet to Your testimonies;

Pastor: I hasten and do not delay

People: to keep Your commandments.

Pastor: Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,

People: I do not forget Your law.

Pastor: At midnight I rise to praise You,

People: because of Your just and righteous decrees.

Pastor: I am a companion of all who fear You,

People: of those who keep Your precepts.

Pastor: The earth, O LORD, is full of Your steadfast love;

People: teach me Your statutes!

EPISTLE

Romans 8:18-27

(The Spirit intercedes for us.)

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

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. 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

(The parable of the wheat and tares)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. 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?' 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?' But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. 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.'" . . .

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." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed

is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kristin Schmidt, DCE Intern

SERMON SONG

“Enough”

Chris Tomlin

**You are my supply
My breath of life
Still more awesome than I know
You are my reward
Worth living for
Still more awesome than I know**

**All of you
Is more than enough for all of me
For every thirst and every need
You satisfy me with your love
And all I have in you is more than enough**

**You're my sacrifice
Of greatest price
Still more awesome than I know
You're my coming King
You're my everything
Still more awesome than I know**

**All of you
Is more than enough for all of me
For every thirst and every need
You satisfy me with your love
And all I have in you is more than enough
You are more than enough**

**More than all I want
More than all I need
You are more than enough for me
More than all I know
More than all I can see
You are more than enough for me
More than all I want
More than all I need
You are more than enough for me
More than all I know
More than all I can see
You are more than enough**

**All of you
Is more than enough for all of me
For every thirst and every need
You satisfy me with your love
And all I have in you.
And all I have in you.
And all I have in you is more than enough**

SERMON

Pastor Chris Matthis

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And, in Jesus Christ His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.epiphanylc.org and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.



If you wish to mail your gift, send you check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.

***VBS VOLUNTEER COMMISSIONING**

Pastor: Dear friends, thank you for volunteering to share *Rainforest Explorers* Vacation Bible School with kids this summer. As members of God's church, you'll have many opportunities to share Jesus' love in words and actions as you represent our Lord and our church. Will you help children and their families know and grow in Jesus, our Savior?

Volunteers: Yes, with the help of God!

Pastor: God's Word says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16). The Holy Spirit works powerfully through God's Works to give us faith to believe in Jesus, to grow in faith, and to live as His people. Will you share God's Word in the Bible lessons with children and their families?

Volunteers: Yes, with the help of God!

Pastor: *(To the congregation)* And you, the Church of Christ, will you support, encourage, and pray for the *Rainforest Explorers* VBS program, its workers, and its teaching and outreach ministry?

Congregation: Yes, with the help of God!

Pastor: May the Holy Spirit empower all of us and make it so! Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

After each petition is read Pastor says, "Lord, in Your mercy," and Congregation responds with, "Hear our prayer."

***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.

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING SONG**

"Your Grace is Enough"

Chris Tomlin

**Great is Your faithfulness oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters and to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart**

**So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, Oh God**

**Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me**

**Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along**

**So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, Oh God**

**Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me**

**Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me**

**So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, Oh God**

**Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me**

**Your grace is enough
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me**

**Your grace is enough
I'm covered in your love
Your grace is enough for me**

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

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Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

"We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"

