

STAFF

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\*\*\**The Pastors are off on Fridays*\*\*\*



**Notice of live streaming:**  
Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023



**St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville**  
stjohnsparkville.org  
(410) 665-1234  
office@stjohnsparkville.org  
Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

## Introduction to the Day

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

*(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)*

*(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)*

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE**                      *Children of the Heavenly Father*                      *Edward Broughton*  
 (© 1995 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### GATHERING

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
 who greets us in this and every season,  
 whose word never fails,  
 whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
 and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings.**

**We have hoarded your bounty.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Righteous God,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have failed to be honest.**

**We have lacked the courage to speak.**

**We have spoken falsely.**

**In the name of Jesus,**

**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

### This week's schedule

Today	9 am	Faith & Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
	10 am	Live & Online Worship
	11:20 am	Finance Meeting (Smith Building)
Mon.	9 am—12 noon	Primary Music Camp
	7 pm	Youth Planning Meeting (Music Room)
Tues.	9 am—12 noon	Primary Music Camp
Wed.	9 am—12 noon	Primary Music Camp
	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	6 pm	Music Camp Picnic & Performance (Fellowship Hall)
Thurs.		
Fri.		
Sat.		

### Counting our Blessings

Sunday	Attendance: 115	2023	
7/16	Offering: \$3,375	April Offering Income	\$28,719
	Homebound: 19	April Other Income	\$ 2,614
		March Total Income	\$31,333
		March Expenses	\$33,887
		YTD Offering Income	\$92,875
		YTD Other Income	\$19,344
		YTD Total Income	\$112,219
		YTD Expenses	\$131,130

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

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## Prayer List



Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** Joan Kraft, Mike McDonough, Bonnie Spellman, Ardi Scarborough, Mardi Nickel, Diane Carroll, Joan Swank, Andy Rother, Rosalie Coffman, Pat Hurley, Phil Ermer, Bett Murphy, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott, Tony Jasinski, and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Joann Bayer, Norman Bayer, Sue Eid, Genevieve Byrnes, Julie Bramble, Phil Gasior & family, Ruth Reimschissel aka Mrs. Claus, Darlene & Odin Saby, Holly Hartman, Colette, Larry Harmel, Michael Ellisson, Lonnie Rash, Gary Jones, Karen Alban, Bruce Cohen, Kathy Barnes, Vic Giordani, Helen Bender, Anna Meyers, Deemer Morrow, Lee Hall, Robin, Alice Ensor, Jeanne Edmunds, Mike Haven, Gail Gangi, Kristin Weger, Donna Bobloch and Yung-Mee Rhee

**For the military and their families:** Kalib McCann, Mason Ledbetter, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all those in harm's way

**For those grieving family & friends of:**

**For St. John's Caring Friends:** Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Barbara Conrad, Betty Creutzer, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Patricia Hurley, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Paul Nolder, Patrick O'Connell, Mary Ann Reek, Janet Roth, Kim Townsley, Cass Tracey and Emma Volz

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.  
God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
Claim the gift of God's mercy:  
you are freed and forgiven  
in the name of + Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

*Oh, Worship the King*

*ELW 842 (vv. 1-2, 5)*

*(Text: Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.; Music: William Croft, 1678-1727)*

### GREETING

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

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.  
Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

#### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 44:6-8**

*There are no other gods besides God: the word of the LORD does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.*

<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 them proclaim it,  
let them declare and set it forth before me.  
Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

<sup>8</sup>Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

**Psalm 86:11-17**

<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.  
<sup>12</sup>**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,  
and glorify your name forevermore.**  
<sup>13</sup>For great is your love toward me;  
you have delivered me from the pit of death.  
<sup>14</sup>**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;  
they have not set you before their eyes.**  
<sup>15</sup>But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.  
<sup>16</sup>**Turn to me and have mercy on me;  
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**  
<sup>17</sup>**Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to  
shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

**SECOND READING**

**Romans 8:12-25**

*For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God’s children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.*

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it is not an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to selfishness, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

<sup>18</sup>I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup>for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved.

**Victor’s Vittles, the food pantry at Christus Victor Lutheran Church is in need of items for their food pantry.** Items needed are: canned fruit, cereal & oatmeal, jelly, peanut butter, pasta sauce, spaghetti noodles, Raman noodles, mac & cheese, beef stew, pancake mix, syrup, instant potatoes, and canned spaghetti



<b>Those Serving Today</b>	
Assisting Minister	Donna McDonough
Crucifer	James W.
Acolyte (s)	Jackson W.
Lector	Laurie Krieger
Communion Assistant	Laurie Krieger
Dismissal Assistant	Devon W.

## Announcements & Upcoming Events

**Next Week— Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>— Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

† 9 am—**Faith and Fellowship**

† 10 am—**Worship in-person and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel**

Visit [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org)



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Chris and Rachel Hills' wedding anniversary.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2023. Dates available are: August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, October 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, November 5<sup>th</sup>, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at [rm\\_hills@yahoo.com](mailto:rm_hills@yahoo.com) if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

**Nursery Care** for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten.



**BIBLE** The Friday Bible Study will take July and August off, but will resume again on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Faith + Fellowship** will be taking a break for the month of August. We will resume our meetings in September. See you then!



**New Member** We will be having a **New Members Lunch** for all prospective new/returning members on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon—2 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided! This will be a time to build relationships, learn more about the ministry of St. John's and ask questions together. Then on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, we will formally welcome new members into the St. John's family during the 10 am worship service. **Please RSVP by September 1<sup>st</sup> to the church office at 410-665-1234 or [office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto:office@stjohnsparkville.org) if you will be joining us for the new member's lunch.**

**Join us for our next Community Meal on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 pm—7 pm.** Thank you to everyone who helped make the July Community Meal a success! We need a few more people to help with our next meal. If you have a few hours to spare, the sign up sheet is on the third floor bulletin board. Please come and invite your friends, family and neighbors!



**St. John's will be participating in the Parkville-Carney Fair on Saturday, September 9th from 10 am—3 pm.** If you are able to volunteer that day, there is a sign up sheet on the third floor bulletin board.



Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

*Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;<sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup>And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup>He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' <sup>29</sup>But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect 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 approached 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 are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup>and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where 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. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(The assembly is seated.)*

## SERMON

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *Almighty God, Your Word is Cast*      **ELW 516**  
*(Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.; Music: J. Day, Psalter, 1562)*

## 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 THE CHURCH

*After each petition*      Hear us, O God.  
   **Your mercy is great.**

**PEACE**      The peace of Christ be with you always.  
                         **And also with you.**

*(We offer each other a sign of Christ's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)*

## MEAL

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**      *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*      *Arr. Rebecca James*  
*(© 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co.)*

through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SENDING

## BLESSING

God, the Source of glory,  
God, the Word of life,  
God, the Spirit of truth  
✚ bless you all, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*      **ELW 631 (vv. 1-3)**

*Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788; music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887)*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Toccata on "Hyfrydol"*      *Douglas E. Wagner*

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## COMMUNION

*All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with a sip of wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.*

*If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, crossing your arms over your chest.*

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## COMMUNION HYMN

*As the Grains of Wheat*

*ELW 465*

*(Text: Didache, 2<sup>nd</sup> cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950; Music: Marty Haugen; Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.)*

*We Come to the Hungry Feast*

*ELW 749*

*(Text and music: Ray Makeever, b. 1942; Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress)*

*(The assembly remains seated.)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.  
We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received  
at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,

*Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.*

*Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website [stjohnsparkville.org](http://stjohnsparkville.org). Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville*



*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## OFFERING HYMN

*For the Wholeness of the Earth*

*ACS 1067*

1 We lift this prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this  
2 We turn our lives to the whole-ness of the earth. We turn our  
3 Give thanks to God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to  
prayer for the whole-ness of the earth. We lift this prayer for the  
lives to the whole-ness of the earth. We turn our lives to the  
God for the whole-ness of the earth. Give thanks to God for the  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris-ing in you?  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it spin-ning in you?  
whole-ness of the earth. Can you feel it ris-ing in you?

Text: Bret Hesla, b. 1957  
Music: WHOLENESS OF THE EARTH, Bret Hesla  
Text and music © 2017 Bret Hesla, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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*(Text and music: Bret Hesla, b. 1957; Text and music © 2017 Bret Helsa, admin. Augsburg Fortress)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.  
God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your graciousness in us,  
that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

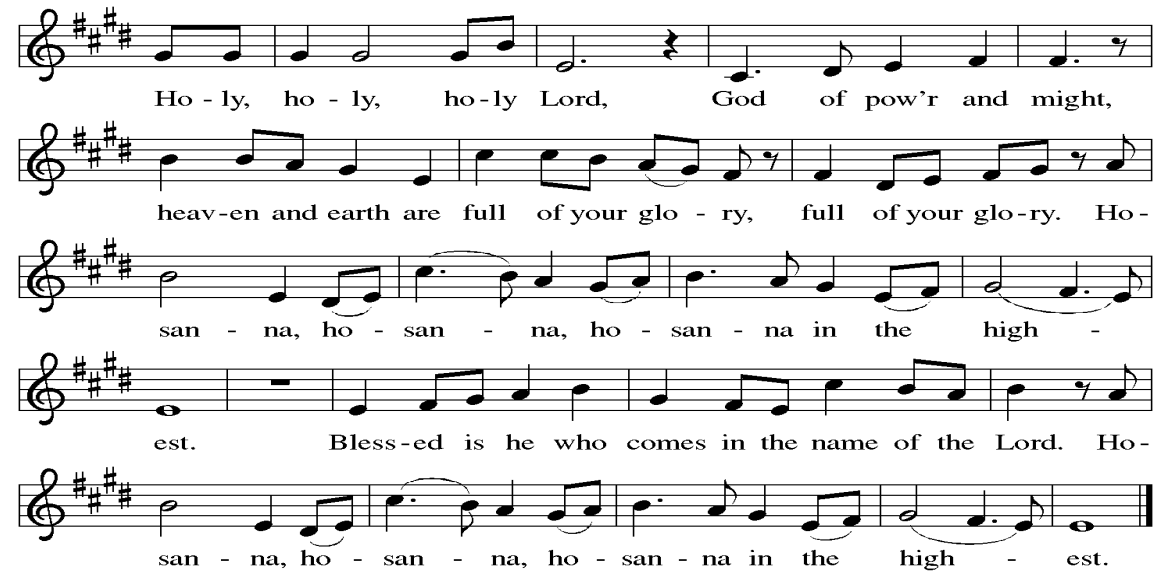
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, living, and loving God,

we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,  
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,  
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus

who, living among us,

healed the sick,

fed the hungry,

and with a love stronger than death,

gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

Remembering, therefore,

his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,

we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:

carry us in your arms from death to life,

that we may live as your chosen ones,

clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever.

**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 assembly is seated.)*

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table.

Come, eat what is good.