

PRINCE OF PEACE

The image features two stalks of golden wheat in the foreground, slightly out of focus. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall tone is peaceful and serene.

*Gather the wheat
into my barn*

Matthew 13.30

Sunday July 19, 2020
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who made us,
The one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
(Silence is kept for reflection)

Source of all life,
We confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.
We fear that we are not good enough.
We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.
We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.
Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love,
Willing to speak for what is right, Act for what is just,
And seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May 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.

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.**

Children's Moment

First 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 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. ⁸ 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.

Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

**¹² I give thanks to you, O Lord my God,
with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.**

¹³ For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**¹⁴ O God, the insolent rise up against me;
a band of ruffians seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

**¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your
servant; save the child of your serving girl.**

¹⁷ 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.

Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ 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?" ²⁸ He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?"

²⁹ But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ 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.' "

³⁶ 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." 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 are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Message

Song: Blessed Assurance # 638

Assurance

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Ref.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy whispers of love.

Ref.

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness lost in His love. *Ref.*

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

The Peace

Announcements

Prayers of Intercession

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world,
and all who are in need.

A brief silence

Each petition ends: *Lord, in your mercy,* The response is: **Hear our prayer.**

God of the harvest, you sow the good seed of the gospel of Jesus Christ into your field.
Help your church throughout the world to be both diligent and patient, full of resolve
and gentleness, that our witness may be faithful to your intentions.
Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, teach us your ways, that we may walk in your truth. Mend the fabric
of human family now torn apart by our fearful and warring ways (*regions and nations in
conflict may be named*). Guide us by your mercy, grace, and steadfast love.
Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of hope, you accompany those who suffer and are near to the brokenhearted.
Open our hearts to your children who are lonely and abandoned, who feel trapped by
despair, and all who suffer in any way (*especially*).
Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of life, those who have died in you shine like the sun in your endless kingdom. We remember with thanksgiving the saints of all times and places and saints close to us, (*especially*). Gather us with them on the day of salvation.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Blessing:

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement
Grant you to live in harmony with one another,
In accordance with Christ Jesus.

And may the blessing of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit
be upon you all the days of your life.

Amen.

Hymn: "When Peace Like a River" 785 Ville Du Havre 118 119

1. When peace like a river
Attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot,
Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well,
it is well with my soul. *Ref.*

2. Though Satan should buffet,
Though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded
My helpless estate,
and hath shed
His own blood for my soul. *Ref.*

3. He lives—Oh, the bliss
Of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to his cross
And I bear it no more
Praise the Lord,
Praise the Lord, O my soul! *Ref.*

4. Lord hasten the day
When our faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trumpet shall sound
And the Lord shall descend
Even so
It is well with my soul. *Ref.*

Refrain: It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Dismissal

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; Be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; Render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; Support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God!

Thanks for joining us!

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This can also be viewed on our facebook page

Please join us for Worship on the Lawn in person or watch @ 930 AM on facebook and Bible study on Wednesday at 10am here.

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