

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 23, 2023 | 9:30am



* Congregational responses in **bold**

Gathering Music

Fantasie No. 7, Largo and Allegro

George Philipp Telemann

Words of Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Silence for Reflection

Most merciful God:

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed -- by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

O Holy Spirit, Enter In

ELW 786

Greeting

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

Hymn of Praise

Glory be to God in Heaven

ELW Page 204

Prayer of the Day

God of mercy, there is no other like you: slow to anger, full of kindness, and abounding in steadfast love. In suffering, we cry out to you, our loving parent, and you bring forth newness of life for us all. Help us to nurture the wheat of goodness within and among us. And teach us not to fear, but to hope for what we cannot yet see: your justice, redemption, and the harvest of abundance, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 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!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 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. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 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. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; 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. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? 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.

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19

For neither is there any god besides you, whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not / judged unjustly; For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you / to spare all.

**For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness / of your power,
And you rebuke any insolence among / those who know it.**

Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you / govern us; For you have power to act whenever / you choose.

**Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous / must be kind,
and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repent- / ance for sins.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Lord and Savior

ELW Page 205

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed

weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 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?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 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.'"

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon But "Wheat" Do We Do With the Weeds? Pastor Rebecca Gamble

Hymn of the Day *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* ELW 512

Thanks for Your Generosity | Announcements

Sharing of the Peace

Music at the Offering *Fantasie No. 7, Dolce* George Philipp Telemann

Offertory Response | Noisy Offering

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

(Children are invited to cheerfully bring their "Noisy Offering" forward during the Offertory Response.)

Prayers of the People

(Congregational response following each prayer petition)

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn *On What Has Now Been Sown* ELW 550

Blessing & Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

Sending Music *Trumpet Tune in C Major* David N. Johnson

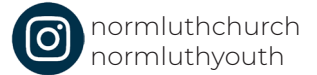
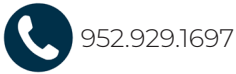
WELCOME TO NORMANDALE



WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Normandale Lutheran Church is a community of believers who love, learn, worship, and serve as we walk in relationship with Jesus Christ and others. We hope you find in us a place of welcome, a place of worship, a place for you.

LOOKING TO GET CONNECTED?



SUNDAY AT NORMANDALE

Join us for coffee, donuts & fellowship in the Fireside Room following worship.

A **livestream** of Sunday worship is available as a way to participate in the regular worship life of our congregation. Visit normluth.org/livestream to watch from wherever you are.

Hymnals are located in the pew backs. We may use both the ELW (red) and ACS (purple) hymnals in worship.

Hearing Devices are available to enhance your worship experience. Please ask an usher if you need assistance!

WAYS TO GIVE

Online: normluth.org/give

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Worship Experience for Kids

Nursery is closed for the summer. See you in the fall!

Our **PrayGround** is located at the front of the worship space and is filled with quiet toys and comfy seating for the littlest in our midst and their caregivers.

Busy Bags, filled with quiet activities, are hanging outside the main entrance of the sanctuary.

Bulletins & Coloring Sheets are located on a table outside of the main sanctuary doors.

Children are invited to cheerfully bring their **Noisy Offering** to the front during the Offertory Response. This offering helps support our Sunday School ministry and is collected every Sunday.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presider:	Pastor Rebecca Gamble
Liturgist:	Pastor Paul Pettersen
Organist:	Gregory Peterson
Cantor:	Amy James
Musician:	Suzanne Klein, violin
Acolyte, Sacristan:	Kati Salmon
Lector:	Norm Teigen
Greeter:	Susie Baker
Ushers:	Fred Shepherd, Brent & Willie Malcom

We Need You!

Help make Sunday happen! Our volunteers make worship possible. Interested in learning more about the ways you can serve or want to sign up?

Contact Kim Sannerud:
ksannerud@normluth.org or 952.977.9380.