



+ Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026



St. Andrew Lutheran Church
304 Morewood Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
St_andrewELCA@verizon.net
www.standrewpittsburgh.org



+ Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

Welcome to St. Andrew!

- St. Andrew welcomes all who are seeking a place of healing, wholeness, and acceptance in a nurturing and faith-forming spiritual home. We are striving toward racial equity worldwide and we seek to honor the lived experience of all individuals regardless of background. Our community embraces people of all ages, ethnicities, cultures, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and family constellations. Come and See!
- Worship Services are live-streamed to multiple online platforms. By attending worship, you agree that your image and voice may be broadcast.
- Everyone is invited to make a name tag at the black bookcase in the back of the worship space if they would like. There are stickers indicating pronouns on the bookcase if you would like to include them on your name tag.
- Little Church – Big Faith is on break for the summer.
- A nursery is available through the doors at the left side of the sanctuary and across from the doorway to the Social Hall. Look for a purple-colored room.
- Worship “toolkits” to help children engage with the service, along with “busy bags” for younger children, are available in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one to use with/for your children.
- Holy Communion is served with bread (gluten-free available) and wine or grape juice. The presiding minister will distribute the bread (host). Please consume this and then pick up an empty glass from the tray. The Communion Assistant will pour wine or grape juice into your glass. Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice. Feel free to kneel at the altar for prayer and reflection. As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either side of the center section.
- A restroom is available on the main level of the church, through the doors to the Social Hall and to the right in the main office.

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

A: Assisting Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

ACS: All Creation Sings hymnal

Musical Offering

Jered Stratton

Each week, different people from the congregation make an offering of pre-service music, with singing or instrumentation, to help the assembly focus and pray in preparation for worship.

Welcome

Prelude

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Please rise as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at Baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity,
one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive us our sin, and call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
 2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
 3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
 4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
 neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
 guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
 fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
 with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
 joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
 hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

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.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 86: 11-17

*The psalm will be read responsively, led by the cantor,
with the congregation responding with the verses in bold.*

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **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.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

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.**

Second Reading – Romans 8: 12-25

¹² So then, kindred, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ 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. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ 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. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

**C: Alleluia. My word shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Alleluia.**

Gospel – Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] 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 Humanity; 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 Humanity 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!”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

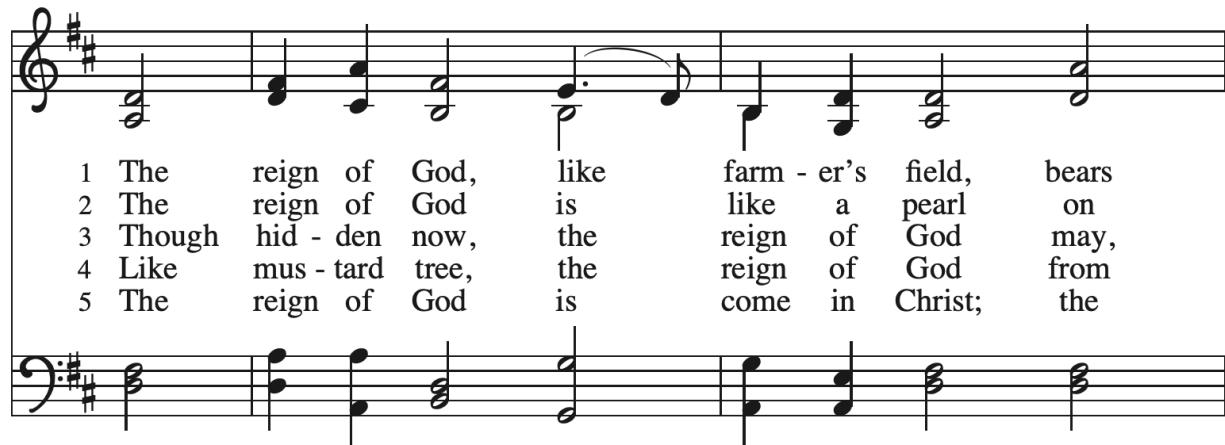
Sermon

*A time of silence for prayer and reflection follows the sermon.
When the hymn of the day begins, please rise as you are able.*

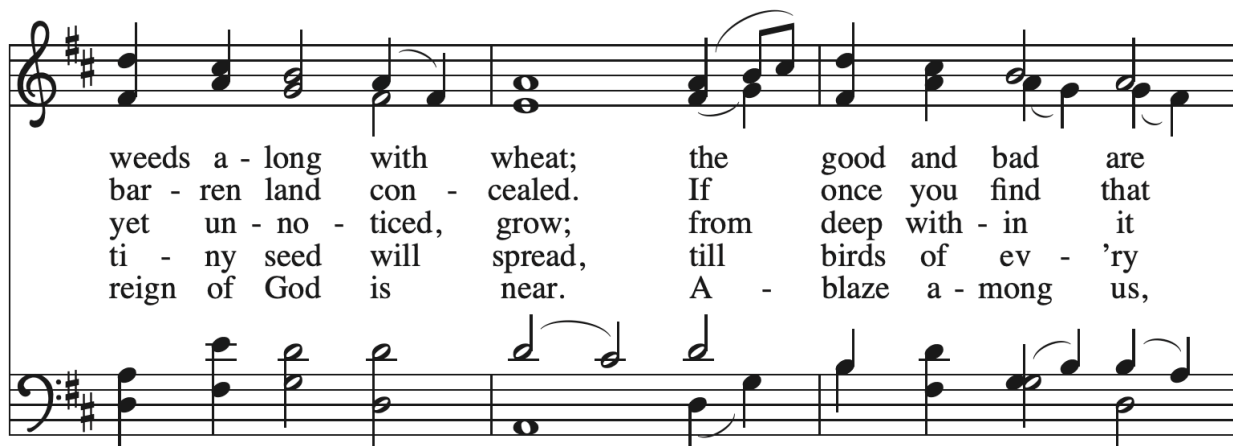


Hymn of the Day The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field

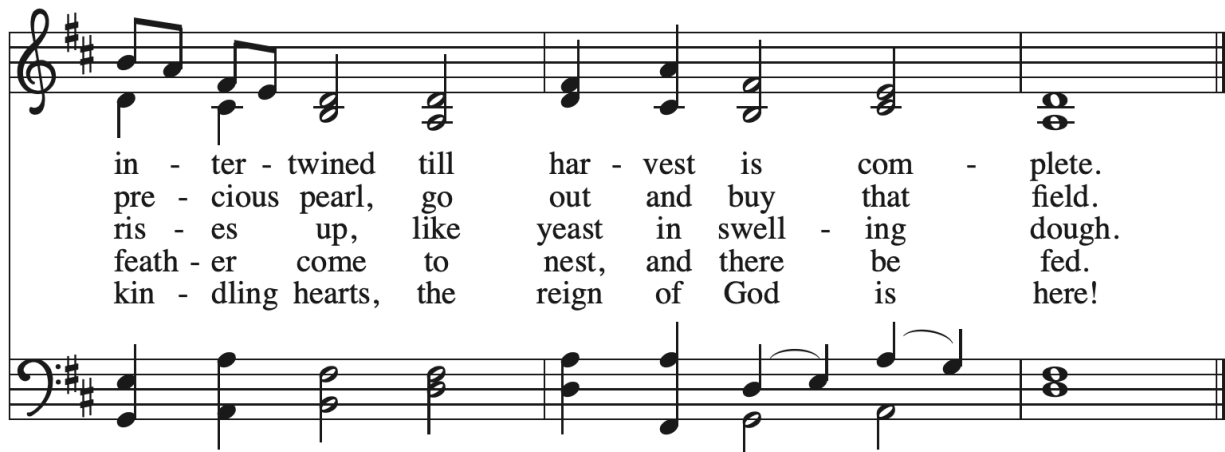
ACS 952



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
 3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
 4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
 bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
 yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
 ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
 reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
 pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
 ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
 feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
 kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816; arr. *With One Voice*, 1995

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Prayers of the People

A: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all creation,
let us pray for the church, the world, and those who are in need.

After each petition

A: Gracious God,

C: receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers

P: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, O God,
we commend into your care all for whom we pray, through the priceless grace of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet one another in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The people may greet those around them with a sign of Christ's peace and may say
Peace be with you or similar words. Please be mindful that not everyone will be comfortable
with sharing the peace, so please seek consent before shaking hands or hugging. Other possible
ways to share the peace include a simple bow with the verbal greeting of peace, or simply a
verbal expression of peace. When the greetings of peace have concluded, please be seated.*

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.

*As the offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need,
the table is set for Holy Communion.*

*There are laminated giving cards in the pew racks that feature a QR code for anyone who would
like to give online. Those who give using the QR code, as well as those who give regularly online
or through their bank are encouraged to place the laminated card in the plate as an expression of
your offering.*

Noisy Offering

*St. Andrew's children lead the congregation in a special offering. As they carry buckets around
the sanctuary, people of the congregation are invited to throw in their change as an offering. This
month's Noisy Offering Lutherlyn, a Lutheran camp located near Butler, PA affiliated with the*

Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod. Lutherlyn offers a variety of camp opportunities for people of all ages, especially summer camps for children and youth. For more information, please visit www.lutherlyn.com.

Music during the Offering

As the gifts are brought forward for presentation, please rise as you are able.

Offertory Song

God, Whose Farm Is All Creation

ELW 734

1 God, whose farm is all cre - a - tion, take the grat - i -
2 Take our plow - ing, seed - ing, reap - ing, hopes and fears of
3 All our la - bor, all our watch - ing, all our cal - en -

tude we give; take the fin - est of our har - vest,
sun and rain, all our think - ing, plan - ning, wait - ing,
dar of care in these crops of your cre - a - tion,

crops we grow that we may live.
rip - ened in this fruit and grain.
take, O God: they are our prayer.

Text: John Arlott, 1914–1991

Music: HARVEST GIFTS, Larry J. Long, b. 1954

Text © Trustees of the late John Arlott, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

God of all creation,

C: all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.

You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world

signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Dialogue

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface *(Spoken by the presiding minister)*

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ...

... be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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 ever. Amen.**

Fraction and Invitation

***Agnus Dei* / Lamb of God**

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Please be seated.

Holy Communion

- *All who seek God and desire a deeper and stronger life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*
- *Worshippers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.*
- *Please inform an usher if you would like the ministers to bring Communion to you.*
- *Holy Communion will be served with bread and wine (red) or grape juice (white).*
- *The presiding minister will first distribute the bread (host) to each communicant. Please indicate if you require a gluten-free host.*
- *Once you have consumed the bread, please pick up an empty glass from the tray next to the presiding minister. The Communion Assistant will pour wine or grape juice into your glass.*
- *Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice.*
- *Feel free to kneel at the altar rail for prayer after receiving the sacrament.*
- *As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty tray on the side of the center section.*
- *A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament.*
- *All are invited to join in singing the hymns during Holy Communion.*

Hymns during Holy Communion

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

ELW 399

The musical score is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with three parts and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

1 O - Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you
3 O - ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -

a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -

wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621; arr. hymnal version

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Hymns during Holy Communion

Sing to the Lord of the Harvest

ELW 694



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613

Hymns during Holy Communion

Let the Whole Creation Cry

ELW 876



- 1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
- 2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
- 3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,



Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
Pow'rs of knowl - edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
from the north to south - ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:



sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
"Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.

Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer

A: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.

In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Announcements

Please rise as you are able.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Following Page

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Sending Hymn

For the Fruit of All Creation

ELW 679



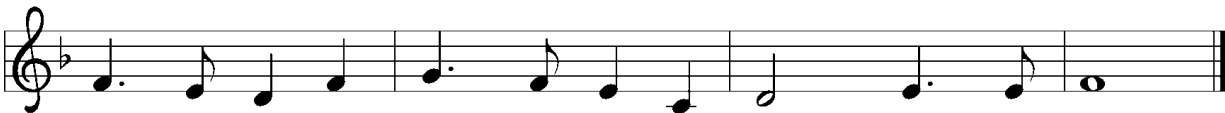
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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Those serving in worship today

Altar Care
Assisting Minister
Audio-Visual Ministers

Cantor
Lector
Pre-Service Musical Offering
Piano
Presiding Minister

Christy Ruhe
Timothy Kocher-Hillmer
Jered Stratton
Jason Galyardt
Miriam Bohlmann Kunz
Lester Prince
Jered Stratton
Jeff Denlinger
The Rev. Erin Jones

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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Please use the QR code below to link to St. Andrew's Announcements online!



St. Andrew Lutheran Church Announcements
July 19th, 2026

- **Welcome to Worship at St. Andrew on the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost** – We are so glad you are here, and we offer a special welcome to all visitors and guests who are here for the first time! There are worship “toolkits” to help children engage with worship and “busy bags” for younger children available in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one to use with/for your children. A nursery is available through the door to the left of the worship space and across the social hall (look for a purple room).
- **Welcome Back to The Rev. Erin Jones, Today's Preaching and Presiding Minister!** – Pastor Erin Jones, a member of St. Andrew and Director of Evangelical Mission / Assistant to the Bishop in the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, will be preaching and leading worship today. We thank Pastor Jones for proclaiming God's word and sharing her gifts with the congregation!
- **Thank You to Jeff Denlinger!** – Jeff Denlinger, a member of St. Andrew, will be leading the music of the congregation on piano today. We thank Jeff for his leadership and for sharing his gifts with the congregation!

- **Noisy Offering, This Sunday During Worship** – On the third Sunday of each month, St. Andrew's children lead the congregation in a Noisy Offering, in which people are invited to throw their change into buckets that the children carry around the church and bring forward as an additional offering. Each month's Noisy Offering supports a local, national, or international church-related or otherwise charitable organization. This month's Noisy Offering will benefit Lutherlyn, a Lutheran camp located near Butler, PA affiliated with the Southwestern Pennsylvania synod. Lutherlyn offers a variety of camp opportunities for people of all ages, especially summer camps for children and youth. For more information, please visit <https://www.lutherlyn.com/programs/>.
- **Produce Distribution Supplemental Food of the Month** – St. Andrew is collecting supplemental food each month to accompany our produce distribution. For July, we ask for donations of canned, dehydrated, or freeze-dried fruits. There are collection boxes at the back of the worship space and social hall.
- **Produce Distribution, Third Tuesday Each Month, July 21st from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** – St. Andrew partners with Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to serve as a distribution site for fresh produce on the first and third Tuesday of every month. We invite people of the congregation to help with the distribution from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and/or to help with unloading and setup during the day between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- **Wiffle Ball with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church - Sunday, July 26th, 4:00 p.m.** – St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (5801 Hampton St. in Highland Park, 15206) has invited this St. Andrew to gather for an afternoon of wiffle ball and community-building on Sunday, July 26th at 4:00 p.m. People of all ages are welcome to play or just come to meet new neighbors and siblings in Christ! We ask people of the congregation to bring cold drinks and/or light snacks to share!
- **Lutheran Disaster Response in Venezuela** – Last week, two powerful and devastating earthquakes struck Venezuela. Entire communities have been shaken to the ground. More than 1,700 lives have been confirmed lost so far, thousands more are injured, and countless families are now without shelter, safety or access to necessities. ELCA partners have deployed assessment teams to affected areas, working together to identify urgent needs, provide immediate relief (e.g. food, shelter, water) and coordinate a plan for long-term assistance. You can support this aid project using the following link: <https://give.elca.org/page/99823/donate>.
- **Bible Book Club and Coffee Hour are on break for the Summer.**