

Williams Bay Lutheran Church Worship

July 19, 2026

Service of the Word & Holy Communion

9:30 AM



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 silence your cell phone. Thank you.

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, 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.

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. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

This is My Father's World

ELW 824

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.**

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.**

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus 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.
⁷Who 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.
⁸Do 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

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.
¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,
and glorify your name for- | evermore.**
¹³For 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 be- | fore their eyes.**
¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.
¹⁶**Turn to me and have mer- | cy 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 com- | forted
me.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, 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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Gospel

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

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 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!”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Pastor Tom

Silence for Reflection

Hymn of the Day

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

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 Intercession

Petitions conclude with: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

MEAL

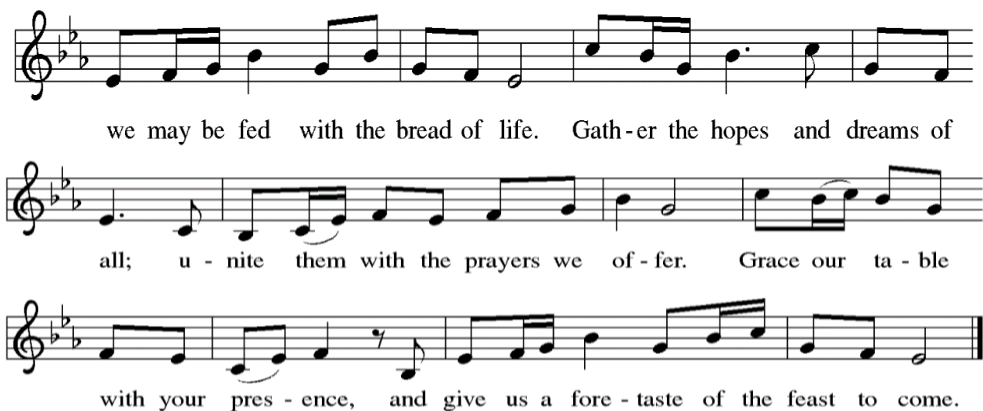
Offering Hymn

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 184

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



Offering Prayer

Words of Institution for Holy Communion

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.

All are Welcome to receive the Lord's Meal at His table.

Hymns during Communion

"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.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

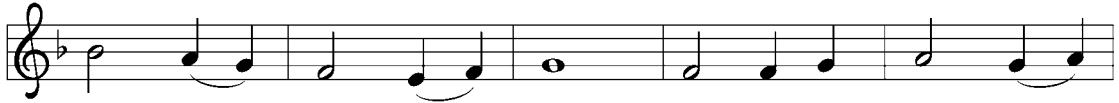
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Text and music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Table Blessing

SENDING

Sending Prayer and Blessing

Sending Hymn

Shall We Gather at the River

ELW 423

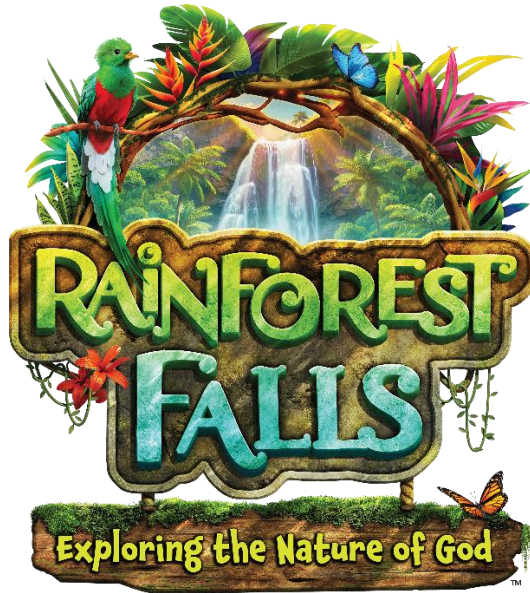
Dismissal

Thanks be to God!



Altar flowers: Today's flowers are provided by Michael and Colleen Stewart in honor of family and with thanks and praise to our gracious Lord for our many blessings.

Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God: Register online: www.wblc.org
Williams Bay Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School, July 27 - July 30.



Grace Notes

July 19	Simplified Service, 8 AM Traditional Service, 9:30 AM
July 20	Office Closed
July 21	Service @ Sherwood Lodge, 10 AM
July 22	Coffee Club, 9:30 AM Property & Finance, 5 PM

Picture Directory - We are making plans for a new pictorial church directory. We are in need of members to help Elise Corcoran on picture days. Please let Pastor Tom know if you are available to help. A letter with more information will follow from the church office.

Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic - This summer our Williams Bay Lutheran Church Outdoor Unity Worship Service will take place on Sunday, August 16 at 9:30 AM at the Anderson's house (7230 S&D Townline Rd., Delavan). This will be a unity service with no 8:00 AM worship. A picnic lunch will follow the service - please bring a salad or dessert to share. Questions? Please contact Pastor Tom, or Wayne and Susan Anderson.

Worship Servers

Service		July 19	July 26
Usher	9:30 AM	Jim Pfeil	Chad Beth
Lector	8:00 AM	Mike Reno	Dori Freundt
	9:30 AM	Bridget Beth	Marilyn Carlson
Cantor	9:30 AM	Bridget Beth	Marilyn Carlson
Communion Assistants	9:30 AM	OPEN	OPEN
		Stu	OPEN
Refreshments		OPEN	OPEN
Altar Flowers		Stewart Family	Pfeil Family
Altar Guild		Dori	OPEN
Offering Counters		Dottie & Connie	Stu & Allen

Life Together as God's People

Ministers	Williams Bay Lutheran Church Members
Pastor	Rev. Thomas Dowling
Council President	Allen Filloon
Council Vice President	Mike Reno
Treasurer	Bruce Hildner
9:30 Organist	Marianne Peterson
8:00 Pianist	Susan Gali, Chris Groth, and Aaron Johnson
Custodian	Mary Mock
Landscaping	Gunnar Olsen
Secretary	Sandra Johnson

