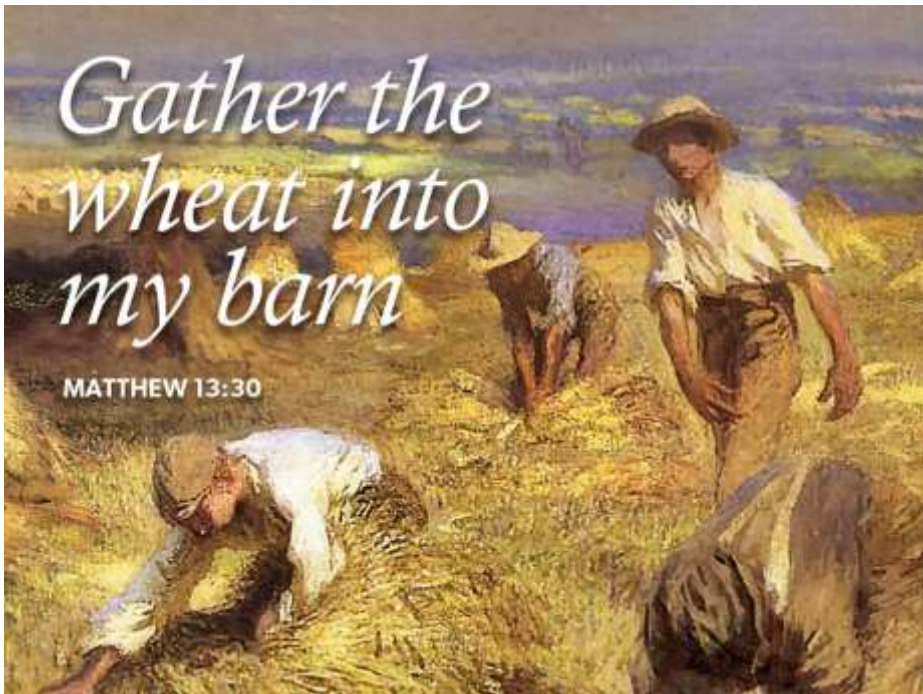


# *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*



*July 23, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church  
308 North Third Street  
Milan, Minnesota*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

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*Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church...* The Holy Spirit calls us together as the church to worship and praise God, made known to us in Christ. Peace be with you all.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN**            “When Morning Gilds the Skies”    (vs. 1-2, 4-5)    ELW #853

## INTRODUCTION FOR 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.*

## \*\*CALL TO WORSHIP

P     People of God, let us gather to worship and praise God’s name.

C     **I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart.  
I will glorify your name forever!**

*Ps. 86:12*

P     For great is your steadfast love for me.

C     **You have delivered my soul from the depths.**

*Ps. 86:13*

P     God says, “Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go.”

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P     In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C     **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P     Most merciful God,

C     **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.**

P By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C **Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** “Oh, Worship the King” (vs. 1-2, 4-5) ELW #842

**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.

C **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.**

**LESSON: 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.*

**PSALM 86:11-17**

L <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.

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

L <sup>13</sup>For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

C <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.**

L <sup>15</sup>But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

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

L <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.

**LESSON: 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.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

## 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.*

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

ELW #597

## APOSTLES' CREED

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C **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 Pilot,  
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

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

P Hear us, O God,

C **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers are concluded with these words:*

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE**            “Praise and Thanksgiving”        (vs. 1 & 2)    ELW #689

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**P**        Lord, we present these tokens of the many blessings you have poured into our lives. Help these gifts to bring hope and comfort to all those in need. In Jesus’ Name, we pray.

**C**        Amen.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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**C**        **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.**

**CHARGE**

**P**        Get ready to go into God’s world.  
          Bring messages of hope to all.  
          As we have been blessed,  
          may we bring blessings to all in the name of Jesus Christ.

**BLESSING**

**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.

**CLOSING HYMN**            “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”            ELW #631

**DISMISSAL**

**P**        Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C**        **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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