

Introit



A Give ear, O Lord, | to my prayer;*
listen to my | plea for grace.

C Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk | in your truth;*
unite my heart to | fear your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,*
and I will glorify your name for- | ever.

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

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of
ruthless men | seek my life,*
and they do not set you be- | fore them.

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

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

A Give ear, O Lord, | to my prayer;*
listen to my | plea for grace.

(Psalm 86:11–15; antiphon: v. 6)

Collect of the Day

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that,
ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of
living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus
Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament – Isaiah 44:6–8

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.

⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.
Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.
⁸Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!
Is there a God besides me?
There is no Rock; I know not any.”

Gradual

A Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*
How unsearchable are his judgments and how
inscrutable | his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle – Romans 8:18–27

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth
comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation
waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the
creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who
subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its
bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of
God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together
in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we
ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait
eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this
hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes
for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it
with patience.
²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know
what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with
groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what
is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints
according to the will of God.

*The numbers on the right refer to the page
numbers which are found in the Hymnal
(LSB) which is located in the pew rack*

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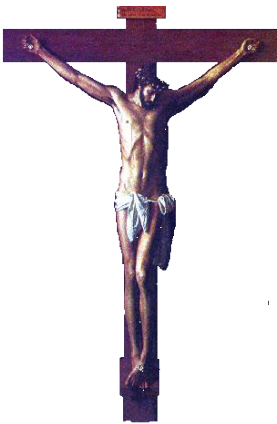
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The Holy Gospel – Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43
[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . .



³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”



Soli Deo Gloria

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

A Biblical, Confessional and Traditional congregation in the Chicago region committed to ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
July 23, 2023
The Divine Service of Holy Communion
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A WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME to all who gather in the Lord’s House today. You have joined with the seen and unseen host of God, around the throne of the Lamb, to be served by the Triune God through the preaching of His Word and the administration of the Holy Sacraments. Apart from these Means of Grace there are no Christians and there is no Church! Therefore the entire Liturgy places God at center stage as He acts towards His people through the Word and Sacraments to bring His gifts of life and salvation. That is why the Liturgy is called “Divine Service” - it is God’s Service to His people! This service reaches its fulfillment in the Lord’s Supper or Sacrament of the Altar.

Dear Visitors and Friends:
The congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of “Closed Communion.” **If you desire to receive the Lord’s Supper and are not a communicant member of Divine Shepherd, or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.** Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Zimmer about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation. It is the sincere prayer of this congregation that our careful practice of the administration of the Lord’s Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **We do invite those who are not a member of the LCMS to come to the altar for a blessing.** If you would like a blessing, as you kneel at the altar, please cross your arms so that your right hand is on your left shoulder and left hand is on your right shoulder. God bless you for Your understanding.