



**We're glad you're here!**  
**If you do not have a church home,**  
**please know that you are welcome to**  
**make this your church home.**

**God's blessings to you!**

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest book at the usher stand. If you have any questions or need assistance, an usher will be happy to help.

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward with your hands folded.

Whether you are visiting or searching for a church home, know that you are always welcome here.



### **Introduction to the Service**

*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*



### **OUR MISSION**

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you

### **CONTACT US**

Church office: 319-827-6626

Church website: [www.americanlutheranjesup.org](http://www.americanlutheranjesup.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alcjesup/>

Pastor Susan Friedrich email: [friedrichsusan@gmail.com](mailto:friedrichsusan@gmail.com)

Secretary's email: [secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)

# 8th Sunday after Pentecost

## ELW Holy Communion

Sunday, July 19, 2026

**Prelude: Brooklyn Pint**

**Welcome & Worship Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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.**

**Gathering Song: *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life* (ELW 399)**

**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.**

**Kyrie (ELW p. 184)** *Congregation sings*

**Prayer of the Day**

**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.**

**Kids Time**

**First Reading: 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*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 86:11-17**

<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.

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

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

<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.**

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

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

<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.**

### **Second Reading: 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.*  
.A reading from Romans.

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> 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!" <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? <sup>25</sup> 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.**

**<sup>1</sup>Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142)**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**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.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> If you have ears, hear!"

<sup>18</sup> "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was

sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy,<sup>21</sup> yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.<sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.<sup>23</sup> But as for what was sown<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,<sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.<sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.<sup>27</sup> 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?’<sup>28</sup> He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’<sup>29</sup> But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.<sup>30</sup> 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.’

<sup>36</sup> 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.”<sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;<sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,<sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.<sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.<sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,<sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.<sup>43</sup> 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

**Hymn of the Day: *For the Fruit of All Creation (ELW 679)***

**Apostles' Creed(found in the back cover of the red Hymnal or page 105)**

## Prayers of Intercession

At the end of each petition will be, “God of grace,” and you may respond, **“hear our prayer.”**

*Closing petition:*

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Now we'll share that peace with one another.

**Offering: God of the Fertile Fields (All Creation Sings ACS #1063)**

**1 God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:  
forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,  
that all in ev'ry land be clothed and fed.**

**3 As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, so your reign grows.  
Let all our toil be used, no gift of yours abused, no humble task refused  
your love bestows.**

## **Offering Prayer**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

**Lord's Prayer( ELW pg. 145)**

## **Invitation to Communion**

## **Communion**

**Communion Song Lamb of God (ELW p. 146)**

## **Table Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace forever. **Amen.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

## **Sending Announcements**

## **Blessing**

***Sending Song Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (ELW 693) vs. 2-4***

**Dismissal**

**Postlude: Brooklyn Pint**

**Join us for fellowship in the Fireside Room  
Treats supplied by Shiela Collins**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Remember our members in your prayers:** Wendell, Shirley, Bill, Sharon, Jeanne, Emelia, Lori, Marie, Kaye

**Prayer Chain:** Contact Kaye Jones [kayejns@gmail.com](mailto:kayejns@gmail.com) or the office ([secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)) with any prayer concerns.

#### **Worship Wednesday Volunteers Needed**

Do you enjoy working with children? American Lutheran Church is looking for volunteers to help with Worship Wednesday from September through April. Whether you can help every week or occasionally, your time and talents can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our young people.

If you are interested in serving or would like more information, please contact the church office.

**Summer Food Program:** During the months of July, and August, the Jesup Ministerial Association will provide food assistance to 13 families twice each month. American Lutheran Church has committed to donating boxed oatmeal and canned fruit for this ministry. Donations may be placed in the grocery cart located by the front entrance.

**Military Address:** Christa Leach, 387 AEW (CSS), OPC 1201 Box 72  
APO AE 09309 As of now, this will be through the end of Sept.

#### **Noisy Offering – Through September 15**

Our Noisy Offering will support the final phase of the Cedar Lodge renovations at Camp Ewalu. Through September 15, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids will match every dollar donated (up to \$50,000), doubling the impact of your gift. Bring your coins, cash, or a special donation, and help Camp Ewalu complete this important project debt-free. Thank you for your generous support!

#### **Vacation Bible School – Rainforest Falls**

Join us for Vacation Bible School at Jesup City Park, August 9–13, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. This year's exciting theme is Rainforest Falls!

Parents can register their children through the church website, or scan the QR Code below. We hope you'll invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for a fun week of faith, music, games, crafts, and learning!



## **THIS WEEK AT ALC**

**Sunday, July 19th**

**9am Worship with Communion**

**Sunday, July 26th**

**9am Worship with Communion**

## **BY THE NUMBERS**

**Attendance July 12th-24**

### **OFFERING**

**Current \$2170**

**Benevolence: \$375**

**Improvement: \$25**

**Current Balance as of June 30, 2026**

**Checking: \$12,030.06**

**Savings: \$27,509.25**

**Improvement \$44,522.53**

## **ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:**

**Reverend Susan Friedrich**

**Music: Brooklyn Pint**

**Usher: Stanek**

**Deacon: Maureen Even**

**Reader: Maureen Even**

**Fellowship: Shiela Collins**

**Videotographer: Mike Waring**

## **Stay Connected This Summer**

Summer is a wonderful time for vacations, family, and relaxation, but we encourage you to stay connected with your church family at ALC. Your presence, prayers, and financial support help sustain our ministry throughout the summer. If you're away, you can still join us through online worship and online giving.

For your convenience, electronic giving is available through Simply Giving. Scan the QR code below or download the Give+ App to make a one-time or recurring gift. Thank you for keeping ALC in your summer plans!



## **Fellowship Volunteers needed!**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050448A5A628AAF94-61890755-alc-fellowship#/>



Scan QR code, use the link or  
leave message for  
Chris 319-827-6626

**Military members:** Christa Leach has been called to active duty with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin are still members of the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is stationed at Fort Knox and in the Army Reserves Cassidee is stationed in Iowa City and Cole is currently home. Cody Clayton is back from Fort Benning, Georgia Basic Training and will report to Dubuque. Karsten Nuehring is back from training and is drilling with the Aviation Unit in Waterloo.

*Please contact the church office to add other names who serve.*

*We remember them in our prayers.*