

## **Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**

Sunday, July 19, 2026

### **Opening Words: Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43**

#### **The Parable of the Weeds**

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

"An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

"No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

#### **The Parable of the Weeds Explained**

Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

"As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

#### **\*Hymn**

#### **"I'm Goin' a Sing When the Spirit Says Sing" Hymnal 333**

WORDS & MUSIC: Afro-American, spiritual

I'm goin' a sing when the Spirit says sing,  
I'm goin' a sing when the Spirit says sing,  
I'm goin' a sing when the Spirit says sing,  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

I'm goin' a pray when the Spirit says pray,  
I'm goin' a pray when the Spirit says pray,  
I'm goin' a pray when the Spirit says pray,  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

I'm goin' a moan when the Spirit says moan,  
I'm goin' a moan when the Spirit says moan,  
I'm goin' a moan when the Spirit says moan,  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

I'm goin' a shout when the Spirit says shout,  
I'm goin' a shout when the Spirit says shout,  
I'm goin' a shout when the Spirit says shout,  
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

**Welcome**

**Pastor Scott Clawson**

### **Call to Worship**

Today, we gather to join our voices with the winds and seas, sunshine and rain, mountains and grassy plains to worship God, our Creator.

**We gather as children of God, stewards of God's creation.**

We gather to join our hearts with creatures who creep and crawl, slither and squirm, swim and soar, to worship God, our Creator.

**We gather as children of God, stewards of God's creation.**

We gather as witnesses of the harm that has been done to God's creation, to the groanings of the earth and all the earth's inhabitants who long for peace and flourishing.

**We gather as children of God, stewards of God's creation.**

Come, let us worship God who strengthens and equips us, guiding us to live out our faith as good stewards of God's good creation.

**Come, let us worship God who inspires and empowers us to be stewards of hope and redemption in a wounded and hurting world! Amen.**

### **Hymn "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" Hymnal 404**

WORDS & MUSIC: Afro American spiritual

Every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart, I will pray.  
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart,  
I will pray.

Up on the mountain, my Lord spoke,  
out his mouth came fire and smoke.  
All around me looks so shine,  
ask my Lord if all was mine.

Every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart, I will pray.  
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart,  
I will pray.

Jordan river runs right cold,  
chills the body, not the soul.  
Ain't but one train on the track,  
runs to heaven and right back

### **Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

God of grace and love, We rely on Your love extended to us in all ways and at all times, extravagantly and with generosity. We live day by day knowing that Your care and concern is poured out for us in Your provision for our needs and beyond our imagining. You entrust us with the gift of the good news of the Gospel and invite us to be partners in the sharing of the message of grace. Day by day, we realize the many gifts lavished upon us. We come to You to acknowledge and praise You for all Your goodness to us. Amen.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, we confess that we do not always love our neighbor. We confess that we have despised others, even to the point of hatred. We confess that we have been hurt by others. We confess that forgiveness and reconciliation at times are just impossible for us. We know that nothing is impossible in You. We come to You, seeking healing and wholeness for us. Help us, whenever possible, to live in peace with others, to seek reconciliation and healing and forgiveness. For Your Son came and lived among us, was betrayed and denied, abused and put to death. He rose again and came with the message of peace to those who had denied him and abandoned him. May we walk in his ways. Amen.**

### **Old Testament Reading: Genesis 28: 10-22**

#### **Jacob's Dream at Bethel**

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the

earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's household, then the LORD will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth."

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**"If You..."**

**Pastor Scott Clawson**

**\* Hymn "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" Hymnal 569**

WORDS & MUSIC: Ernest Nichol

We've a story to tell to the nations,  
that shall turn their hearts to the right,  
a story of truth and mercy,  
a story of peace and light,  
a story of peace and light.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noon-day bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom  
shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations,  
that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,  
a song that shall conquer evil  
and shatter the spear and sword,  
and shatter the spear and sword.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noon-day bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom  
shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

We've a message to give to the nations,  
that the Lord who reigneth above  
hath sent us his Son to save us,  
and show us that God is love,  
and show us that God is love.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noon-day bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom  
shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

We've a Savior to show to the nations,  
who the path of sorrow hath trod,  
that all of the world's great peoples  
might come to the truth of God,  
might come to the truth of God.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noon-day bright;  
and Christ's great kingdom  
shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

### **Benediction**

Beloved, the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. **May the Spirit bless us and empower us to reveal ourselves as the children of God as we work for the flourishing of all creation. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Dedication**

**Response** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**9:30 AM WORSHIP LEADERS**

Lay Reader: Charlene Bishop

Ushers/ Greeters:

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NMUMC by the Numbers: July 12, 2026**

8:15 AM: 21 9:30 AM: 28 11:00 AM: 48 Online: 14 Nursery: 5

**Total Offering:** \$15,185.00 *Regular Offering:* \$6,520.00\*

Hope 4 Kids: \$205.00 New Ministry Center: \$7,710.00

Outreach, Hess Family: \$750.00

*\*Amount Needed to Meet Weekly Budget: \$5,862.53*

***Giving Tree Pledge Total: \$1,238,800.00***

***Commitment Pledges: \$1,028,800.00***

***Commitment Estate Pledges: \$210,000.00***

***Non-Pledged Donations: \$61,646.00***

***Total Pledges & Non-Pledged Donations: \$1,275,446.00***

**Church Meetings**

Tuesday, July 21: Morning Bible Study – 10:00 AM – Sanctuary

Saturday July 25: VBS Meeting – 9:30 AM – Sanctuary & ED  
Building

**Fresh Start Service:** This service will be held at 8:15 am at Fairview Chapel. (6802 Boyers Mill Rd, New Market 21774) The design for this service is for those who want to get an early start on their Sunday and those who are seeking an alternate worship experience. Acoustic guitar, prayer, a short inspirational message, and Communion will be highlighted. The service is designed to last a half hour. OR join us later for an evening service at 6:00 PM

**Daily Devotions Starting July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday (7/20) Genesis 29: 15-28**

Have you ever been fooled or betrayed by a close friend? How did you respond to this betrayal? Would you do anything different as you reflect on that time?

**Tuesday (7/21)- Psalm 128: 1-6**

How is your soul today? Thank God for all that has sustained you through this day.

**Wednesday (7/22)- 1 Kings 3: 5-12**

If God asked you about what God could give you, what would your answer be? Why?

**Thursday (7/23)- Psalm 119: 129-136**

Use these words as a repeat prayer today. Pray it in the morning, at noon, and in the evening.

**Friday (7/24)- Romans 8: 26-39**

What silent prayer do you need the Holy Spirit to intercede in on your behalf? Trust that the Lord will answer your prayer in the Lord's time.

**Saturday (7/25)- Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52**

If someone asked you what the Kingdom of Heaven or the Kingdom of God looked like, how could you use these verses to show the mystery of how God increases things for good?

**Sunday (7/26)- Worship in person or online today.**

Pastor Scott's Contact Information: Pastorscott62@gmail.com

240-409-8119 | Summer Office Hours: Thursday | 11 AM-4 PM

**Snowball Mt. Challenge! Vacation Bible School | August 3-7 |  
6 PM – 8 PM | Kids ages 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

NEW THIS YEAR Adult Class!! This class will run the same date and time as our children's VBS Join us for one day or the whole week. We will enjoy a lesson, craft, and snack, just like the kids! Follow the QR codes below to register

**KIDS AGE 3-5<sup>TH</sup>  
GRADE**



**ADULT CLASS**



**YOUTH  
6<sup>TH</sup>- 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**



*join us to volunteer!*