

**SUNDAY**

07 / 19 / 2020

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**SEVENTH  
SUNDAY  
AFTER  
PENTECOST**

**CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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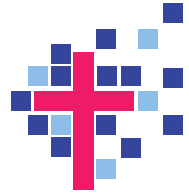
*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:  
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*

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## Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:  
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*



*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.*

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# GATHER

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

## OPENING SONG

### 10,000 Reasons

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Wor-ship His ho - ly name.  
 Sing like nev-er be-fore, O my soul; I'll wor-ship Your ho - ly name.  
 1. The sun comes up it's a new day dawn-ing, it's time to sing Your song  
 a - gain. What - ev - er may pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me,  
 let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes. (Bless the)

2. You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.  
 Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
 For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
 Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

3. And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
 the end draws near, and my time has come;  
 Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending  
 ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

Text and Music: Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

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## GOD IS IN THIS PLACE

### GATHERING PRAYER

P Let us pray: Faithful God, Loving Father, you guide your children in living according to your life-giving ways, with caring correction and gentle discipline. By your Spirit, nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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## LESSONS

### FIRST LESSON

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#### *Isaiah 44:6-8*

*There is only one God, who speaks through the prophet Isaiah, using the language of a courtroom to make this point clearly to his people.*

L A reading from Isaiah.

God, King of Israel,

your Redeemer, God-of-the-Angel-Armies, says:

"I'm first, I'm last, and everything in between.

I'm the only God there is.

Who compares with me?

Speak up. See if you measure up.

From the beginning, who else has always announced what's coming?

So what is coming next? Anybody want to venture a try?

Don't be afraid, and don't worry:

Haven't I always kept you informed, told you what was going on?

You're my eyewitnesses:

Have you ever come across a God, a real God, other than me?

There's no Rock like me that I know of."

L Word of God. Words of Life.

**C Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM

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### *Psalm 86:11-17*

*The psalmist experiences God's guidance and discipline as loving acts of the One who is gracious and compassionate.*

L Psalm 86.

Train me, God, to walk straight;  
then I'll follow your true path.  
Put me together, one heart and mind;  
then, undivided, I'll worship in joyful fear.  
From the bottom of my heart I thank you, dear Lord;  
I've never kept secret what you're up to.  
You've always been great toward me—what love!  
You snatched me from the brink of disaster!  
God, these bullies have reared their heads!  
A gang of thugs is after me—  
and they don't care a thing about you.  
But you, O God, are both tender and kind,  
not easily angered, immense in love,  
and you never, never quit.  
So look me in the eye and show kindness,  
give your servant the strength to go on,  
save your dear, dear child!  
Make a show of how much you love me  
so the bullies who hate me will stand there slack-jawed,  
As you, God, gently and powerfully  
put me back on my feet.

L Word of God. Words of Life.

**C Thanks be to God!**

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## SECOND LESSON

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### Romans 8:12-25

*For the Apostle 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.*

L A reading from Romans.

So don't you see that we don't owe this old do-it-yourself life one red cent. There's nothing in it for us, nothing at all. The best thing to do is give it a decent burial and get on with your new life. God's Spirit beckons. There are things to do and places to go! This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?" God's Spirit touches our spirits and confirms who we really are. We know who he is, and we know who we are: Father and children. And we know we are going to get what's coming to us—an unbelievable inheritance! We go through exactly what Christ goes through. If we go through the hard times with him, then we're certainly going to go through the good times with him! That's why I don't think there's any comparison between the present hard times and the coming good times. The created world itself can hardly wait for what's coming next. Everything in creation is being more or less held back. God reins it in until both creation and all the creatures are ready and can be released at the same moment into the glorious times ahead. Meanwhile, the joyful anticipation deepens. All around us we observe a pregnant creation. The difficult times of pain throughout the world are simply birth pangs. But it's not only around us; it's within us. The Spirit of God is arousing us within. We're also feeling the birth pangs. These sterile and barren bodies of ours are yearning for full deliverance. That is why waiting does not diminish us, any more than waiting diminishes a pregnant mother. We are enlarged in the waiting. We, of course, don't see what is enlarging us. But the longer we wait, the larger we become, and the more joyful our expectancy.

L Word of God. Words of Life.

**C Thanks be to God!**

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**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu<sup>2</sup> - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu<sup>2</sup> - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, \_\_\_\_\_ al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, \_\_\_\_\_ al - le - lu - ia!

Text and Music: Pillar Church  
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## HOLY GOSPEL

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### *Matthew 13*

P Hear the Good News, as recorded in St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Jesus told another story. "God's kingdom is like a farmer who planted good seed in his field. That night, while his hired men were asleep, his enemy sowed thistles all through the wheat and slipped away before dawn. When the first green shoots appeared and the grain began to form, the thistles showed up, too. The farmhands came to the farmer and said, 'Master, that was clean seed you planted, wasn't it? Where did these thistles come from?' He answered, 'Some enemy did this.' The farmhands asked, 'Should we weed out the thistles?' He said, 'No, if you weed the thistles, you'll pull up the wheat, too. Let them grow together until harvest time. Then I'll instruct the harvesters to pull up the thistles and tie them in bundles for the fire, then gather the wheat and put it in the barn.' Jesus dismissed the congregation and went into the house. His disciples came in and said, "Explain to us that story of the thistles in the field." So he explained. "The farmer who sows the pure seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the pure seeds are subjects of the kingdom, the thistles are subjects of the Devil, and the enemy who sows them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the age, the curtain of history. The harvest hands are angels. The picture of thistles pulled up and burned is a scene from the final act. The Son of Man will send his angels, weed out the thistles from his kingdom, pitch them in the trash, and be done with them. They are going to complain to high heaven, but nobody is going to listen. At the same time, ripe, holy lives will mature and adorn the kingdom of their Father."

P This is good news.

**C Thanks be to God.**

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## MESSAGE

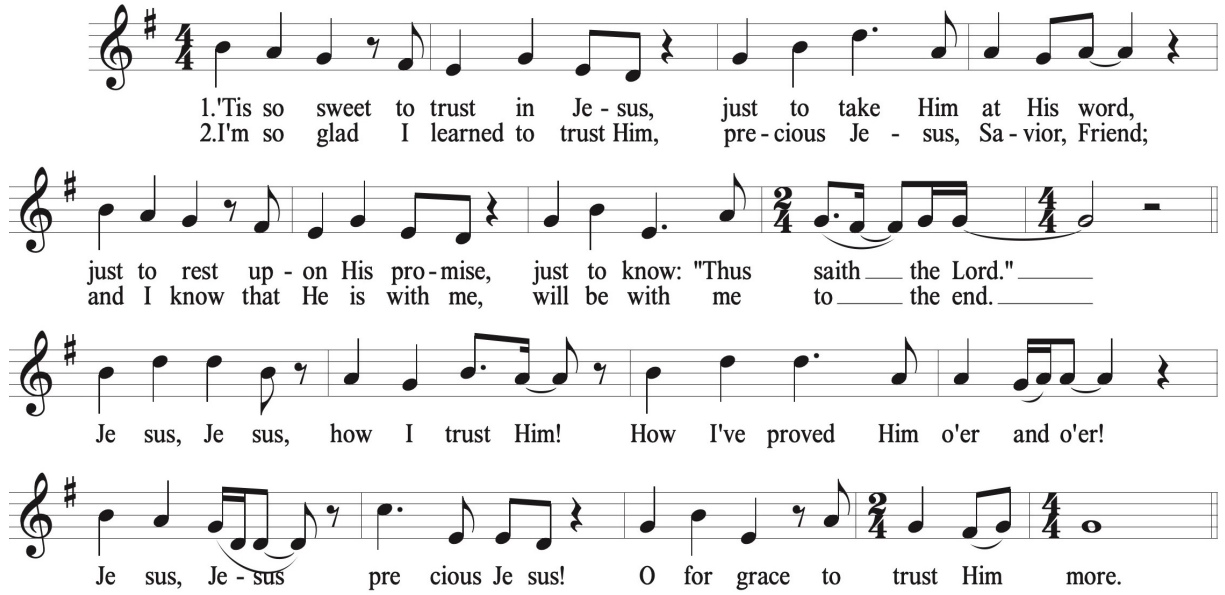
Pastor Dave Thomas

*Tare-ing Out Some Weeds*

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SONG OF THE DAY

*'Tis So Sweet*



1.'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to take Him at His word,  
 2.I'm so glad I learned to trust Him, pre - cious Je - sus, Sa - vior, Friend;

just to rest up - on His pro - mise, just to know: "Thus saith \_\_\_ the Lord." \_\_\_  
 and I know that He is with me, will be with me to \_\_\_ the end. \_\_\_

Je sus, Je sus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!

Je sus, Je - sus pre cious Je sus! O for grace to trust Him more.

Words: Louisa M. R. Stead  
 Music: William J. Kirkpatrick

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### OFFERING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

- P** May God Creator bless you and keep you.  
May Christ be ever light for your life.  
May the Spirit of Love be your guide and your path for all of your days.  
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
-



## CLOSING SONG

### Build My Life

1. Wor - thy of ev - 'ry song — we could e - ver sing.  
2. Je - sus the name a - bove — ev - ry oth - er name.

Wor - thy of all the praise — we could e - ver bring.  
Je - sus the on - ly one — who could ev - er save.

1. — we could ev - er breathe. We live for you. —  
2. — we could ev - er breathe. We live for you. —

Ho - ly, there is no one like you, there is none be - sides you. O - pen up my eyes in won - der and

1. show me who you are and fill me, with your heart and lead me in your love to those a - round me.

2. those a - round me. I will build my life u - pon your love; it is a firm foun - da - tion.

1. I will put my trust in you a - lone, and I will not be shak - en. 2. **D.S. al Fine** not be shak - en.

Words and Music: Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Elizabeth Kaple, Matt Redman, Pat Barrett  
CCLI No, 1703692 © 2016 Martin, Karl Andrew | Kaple Music | Capitol CMG Genesis | Housefires Sounds | Said And Done Music | sixsteps Music | Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs | Bethel Music Publishing

**SENT TO SERVE**

P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."  
By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we are called to:

**C** **Worship God,**  
**Grow in Faith,**  
**Share the Gospel,**  
**Serve Others,**  
**Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!**