

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500

durhamlutheran.org

Reverend James Heckman, Pastor

267-664-3160 / pastor@durhamlutheran.org



July 19, 2026

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

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.

You can find the live stream at the following location:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

Worship from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB170076.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License # 715933-A. All rights reserved.

Prelude:

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Stand if you are able)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: Compassionate God,

C: 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.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW 689

Praise and Thanksgiving



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

INVOCATION

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.

KYRIE-



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for
 hun-gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam-i-ly; for
 wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



- 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of

vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -

le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray,

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.

C: Amen.

(Please be Seated)

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.

L: A reading from the forty-fourth chapter of Isaiah.

⁶ 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. ⁷ 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.
⁸ 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.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 86:11-17

L: ¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

C: ¹² I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.

L: ¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

C: ¹⁴ 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: ¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

C: ¹⁶ Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.

L: ¹⁷ 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.

L: A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

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

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

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

(Please stand if you are able)



The 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 holy gospel according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

P: ²⁴ Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ 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?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ 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.' "

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

fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Hymn of the Day: ELW 693 (*Stand if you are able*)

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.



All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S. WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

APOSTLES CREED

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 Pilate, 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 INTERCESSION

The pastor will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read the other prayer aloud as they feel called. The congregation may turn and face the aisle.

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. *We pray especially for those we mention now or in the comfort of our hearts.* God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING –

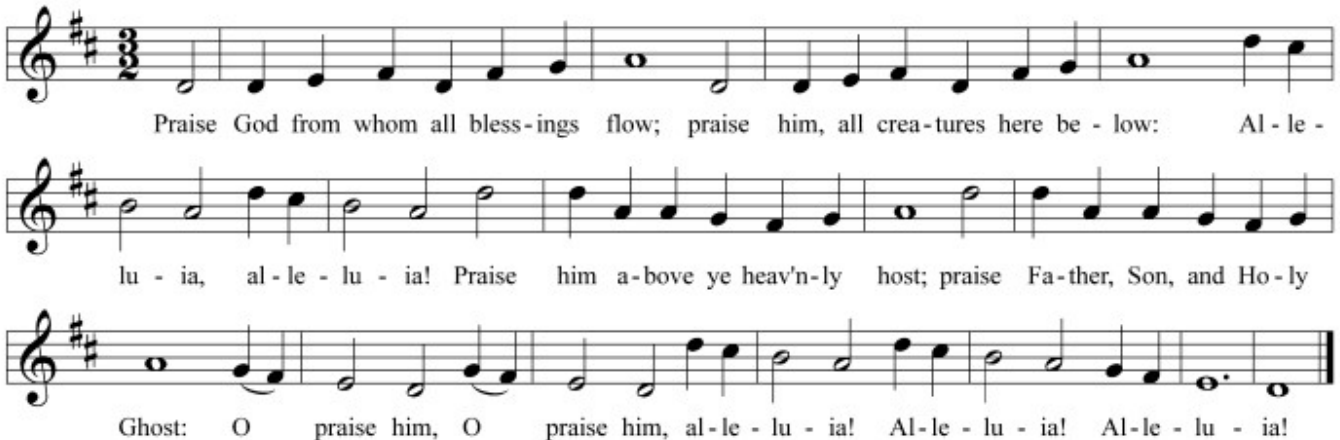
Scan this QR code to give electronically



PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS- Doxology

Thomas Ken, 1709

Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623



Tune © Oxford University Press
CC/1.0/2254/08

Offering Prayer

P: Let us Pray: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

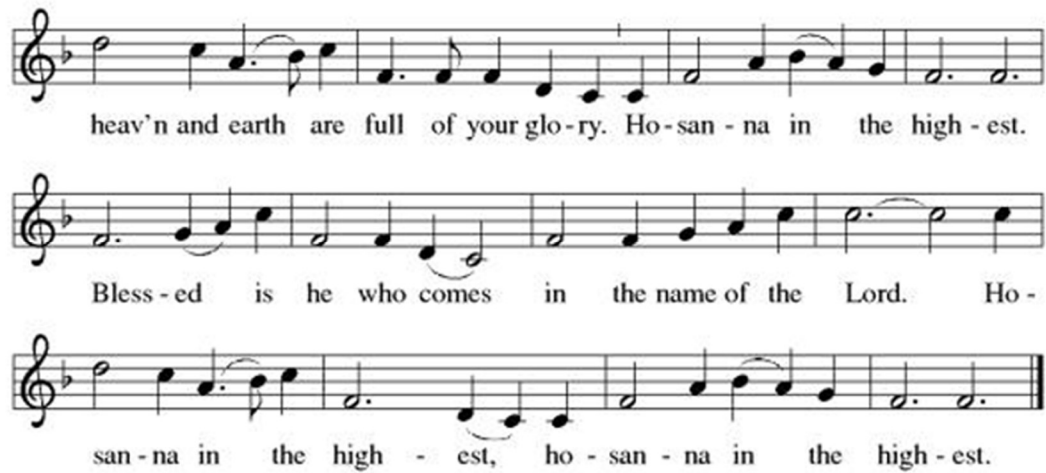
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (said by Pastor)

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior taught us:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near, Come, share in the feast!

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow usher)

SONG DURING COMMUNION: ELW 465

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain
 As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
 gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
 all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
 1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when
Refrain
 may we share the pres - ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray, Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

Announcements

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen

Sending Song : ELW 694

Sing to the Lord of Harvest



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing.
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with his full - ness, all things with large in - crease,
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty and with peace.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN, Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude:

Our Outreach envelopes for July will be split and donated to the Lord's Pantry and Project Easton.

July	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
19	Joe Erceg		
21		Serena & Brian Ashmore	Ben T. Naska
23			Ryan Fox
24	Suzanne Mauer Carole Ulmer Bea von Watzdorf		



Prayer List

For Healing of those in our Congregation: Barbara Altemus; David Antoni; Virginia Hager; Joe Hlavaty; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Bradley Mundt; Barbara Naska; Joanne Ziegenfuss; Pat Zion

For Healing of Friends and Family: Phyllis Allebach; Bob Benoure; Carolyn Berry; Jason Bigley; Brier Bower; Hans Buss; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Christine Connelly; Stephanie Courtney; Dan Crooke; David Davis; Charlie DeLorenzo; Nancy Edelen; Marissa Embardino; Carol and Leon Errico; Barbara Foster; Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Dolores Hess; Penny Houck; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Priscilla Ballek Kinter; Judy

Krick; Tim Koplin; Carole Korupp; Devon Kramer; Jake Kramer; Lee; Kimberly Litzenberger and family; Linda Lyle; Colleen Marshall; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Connor McDevitt; Jennifer McLeod; Stacy Mecham; Helen Mundt; Larry Munford; Hunter Nebbia; Keith Newcomb; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jax Reidinger; Adrienne Rozzi; Connie Rugen; Laurel Sheetz; Holly Snyder; Donna Storm; Ellen Sullivan; Edward Thaler; Russ Trauger; Joe V.; Janet Vanderlely; Karen von Ruffer-Hills; Kelly Walsh; Todd Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Ann & Henry Wong and Family; Barbara Yob; Linda Zerfass.

For those who are Homebound: James Altemose; Cheryl Mesko

For families and friends grieving the loss of: Al Boorse; Althea Crouse, Esther Crouse; Rose Elcavage; Nancy Hogan; Jayne Miller; Dennis Phillipps; Stephen J Rohs Jr; Ruth Sauter; Jami Silfies; Lillian Staiger; Jeff Starling; Linda Wetherill; Wayne Yeisley

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: joanmammana@icloud.com

Worship Assistants

Pastor	Rev. James Heckman
Organist Choir Director	Carolyn Williams
Altar Guild	Mark Harwick and Bea von Watzdorf
Greeter(s)	Miriam Anderson
Acolyte	
Lector	Evalyn O'Brien and Linda Sauter
Head / Communion Usher	
Council Communion Coordinator	Mark Harwick
Counting Team	
Technology & Livestreaming	Ken Anderson
Administrative	Kathryn Wagner
Custodian	Dawn Margeson

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH

Sunday, July 19 8th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00 AM	Communion Worship
Monday, July 20	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Wednesday, July 22	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 6:30 PM -7:30 PM	Office Hours Wednesday Sundaes
Thursday, July 23	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 12:00 PM	Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim

Upcoming Weeks

Sunday, July 26 9th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00 AM After Worship	Communion Worship Durham Dialogue
Monday, July 27	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM 5:55 PM- 8:00 PM	Admin Office Hours VBS @ St Luke Ferndale
Wednesday, July 29	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 6:30 PM -7:30 PM 5:55 PM- 8:00 PM	Office Hours Wednesday Sundaes VBS @ St Luke Ferndale
Thursday, July 30	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 12:00 PM 5:55 PM- 8:00 PM	Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim VBS @ St Luke Ferndale
Friday, July 21	5:55 PM- 8:00 PM	VBS @ St Luke Ferndale

Sunday, August 2 10th Sunday after Pentecost	10:00 AM	Communion Worship
Monday, August 3	1:00 PM- 3:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Tuesday, August 4	10:00 AM- 2:00 PM	Admin Office Hours
Wednesday, August 5	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 6:30 PM -7:30 PM	Pastor Office Hours LAST Wednesday Sundaes!
Thursday, July 9	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 12:00 PM	Pastor Office hours Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim