



Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

July 19, 2026 Ordinary 16

Prayers written by Kellan Sarles.

Gathering in God's Name

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Prelude in C Major BWV 846" J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Here we gather to worship - to proclaim one God, one savior, one Spirit and one humanity.

People: We worship collectively, for only in community is our faith complete.

Pastor: We worship with music because it pleases God.

People: We worship with prayer - the language of the Spirit.

Pastor: We worship with scripture - God's eternal word, both convicting and consoling.

People: We worship with joy, anticipating our great reunion.

Pastor: Let us worship God!

HYMN #370 This Is My Father's World

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Guide: We lift our gaze from the treadmill of our days to focus instead on God's steadfast goodness.

People: We thank you, Holy Creator, for the garden which is earth, for fertile ground, lofty mountains, abundant waters, and diverse life forms. We thank you for the energy of day, the respite of night, the rhythm of the seasons, and the beauty of dawn and sunset. We thank you for our senses of sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste – and for our brains that can understand, remember, empathize, imagine, and create.

Guide: Though made in God's image and called by Christ, our lives must disappoint our Creator.

People: In the face of temptation, our resolve crumbles. In the hour of anger, we return insult for insult. In moments of desperation, we call on God as a last resort. When opportunities arise to share the Good News of Jesus, we remain silent. So, in this time of prayer, we humbly ask God to

forgive us and empower us to live out our calling with courage and love.

- Silent Confessions -

Guide: Let us ask for the Lord's forgiveness saying the prayer that Christ taught us . . . ***"The Lord's Prayer" (debts/debtors) p. 35 in hymnal***

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Guide: This is the promise of the Gospel - Christ was crucified, died, was buried, and resurrected. He is the first-born among the saints and has promised us that we will live eternally with God. Our disbelief does not change that amazing promise. It stands forever.

CHORAL RESPONSE (in unison)

#582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Encountering God in the Word

ANTHEM "Soon and Very Soon" Andre Crouch

FAMILY SERMON Pastor Joseph

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: In reverence, we read together the inspired Word of God. It speaks to *all* of us but also to *each* of us - imparting wisdom for this hour and this question.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 44:1-8

1-2 But now hear this, Jacob my servant, and Israel, whom I have chosen. The Lord your maker, who formed you in the womb and will help you, says: Don't fear, my servant Jacob, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

3-4 I will pour out water upon thirsty ground and streams upon dry land. I will pour out my spirit upon your descendants and my blessing upon your offspring. They will spring up from among the reeds like willows by flowing streams.

5 This one will say, "I am the Lord's," and that one will be named after Jacob. Another will write on his hand, "The Lord's" and will take the name Israel.

6 The Lord, Israel's king and redeemer, the Lord of heavenly forces, says: I am the first, and I am the last, and besides me there are no gods.

7 Who is like me? Let them speak up, explain it, and lay it out for me. Who announced long ago what is to be? Let them tell us what is to come.

8 Don't tremble; have no fear! Didn't I proclaim it? Didn't I inform you long ago? You are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no other rock; I know of none.

All: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

24 Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like someone who planted good seed in his field.

25-26 While people were sleeping, an enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat and went

away. When the stalks sprouted and bore grain, then the weeds also appeared.

27-28 “The servants of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Master, didn’t you plant good seed in your field? Then how is it that it has weeds?’ “‘An enemy has done this,’ he answered. “The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather them?’

29-30 “But the landowner said, ‘No, because if you gather the weeds, you’ll pull up the wheat along with them. Let both grow side by side until the harvest. And at harvesttime I’ll say to the harvesters, “First gather the weeds and tie them together in bundles to be burned. But bring the wheat into my barn.”

36 Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

37-39 Jesus replied, “The one who plants the good seed is the Human One. The field is the world. And the good seeds are the followers of the kingdom. But the weeds are the followers of the evil one. The enemy who planted them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the present age. The harvesters are the angels.

40-42 Just as people gather weeds and burn them in the fire, so it will be at the end of the present age. The Human One will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that cause people to fall away and all people who sin. He will throw them into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father’s kingdom. Those who have ears should hear.”

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

SERMON “Eschatology” Pastor Joseph Tabor

Responding to God’s Word

APOSTLE’S CREED

HYMN #357 “The Days are Surely Coming”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Let us go to God, lifting up to Him our burdens.

People: Heavenly father, You bore the pain of Christ on the cross, and You bear the pain of the world. We ask that You look with compassion on those who are frail, broken, and sick - cheering, encouraging, and healing them. We pray Your presence with those in darkness, whether physical or spiritual. We pray for the hungry and the desperately poor. We ask, Great God, that you protect the soldiers, captives, civilians and children. Restrain, we pray, the leaders and politicians who default to violence at the expense of the vulnerable. Give them new resolve to use peaceful means to bring peace. Amen.

- Prayer for others and ourselves. A candle is lit. -

Pastor: Christ says, “Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” May we, indeed, rest in the assurance that Christ hears and answers prayers, and that He holds each of us in His hand. Amen.

OFFERTORY “Simple Gifts” Mark Hayes

***OFFERING** *(in unison)* “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”
*God, Whose giving knows no ending, from Your rich and endless store,
Nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door:
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ’s ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving You by loving all.*

DEDICATION *(unison)*

We dedicate these gifts to the Lord’s work. May they be received and used as an expression of our love for God and our neighbor. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #714 God of the Fertile Fields

Blessings and Sending

BENEDICTION Pastor Joseph

***DOXOLOGY** *(in unison)* #606

*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.*

POSTLUDE “Praise the Lord, the Almighty” Mark Hayes

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

As far as I'm concerned, Romans 8:38-39 might be the most important verses in all of scripture. The assurance of God's steadfast and faithful love is what empowers us to look beyond our own frailty and failings and show love to others, even when it's hard. Where have you seen God's love in your life? Where has it been hard to see? What has the assurance of God's love empowered you to do differently as you grow in grace and wisdom?

MONDAY Psalm 139:1-18

TUESDAY Revelation 14:12-20

WEDNESDAY Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

THURSDAY Hosea 11:1-12

FRIDAY Isaiah 43:1-13

SATURDAY Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SUNDAY Romans 8:28-39