

### **Isaiah 44:6-8 (ESV)**

<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 him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

<sup>8</sup> Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

### **Romans 8:18-27 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup> And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know

what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

### **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup> And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ <sup>28</sup> He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather 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 came to 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 is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as

the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup> and throw them into

the fiery furnace. In that place 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. He who has ears, let him hear.

## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Proper 11A (July 17–23)

Isaiah 44:6–8

Romans 8:18–27

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

### ***The Word of the Gospel Bestows the Righteousness of Christ and Brings Forth Faith***

The good Seed, which is “*the Son of Man*,” Jesus Himself (Matt. 13:37), brings forth a harvest of faith and bears good fruits in “*the children of the kingdom*” (Matt. 13:38). Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of unbelief and sin, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and He does not uproot the weeds, lest the plants also be destroyed. He lets “*both grow together until the harvest*” (Matt. 13:30) while He continues to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus He preserves His Church in righteousness, because He alone is “*the King of Israel and his Redeemer*” (Is. 44:6). Since all things are in His gracious care and keeping, “*fear not, nor be afraid*” (Is. 44:8). For “*the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God*” (Rom. 8:19), and in this hope we also wait with patience. Though we do not yet see it, “*the Spirit helps us in our weakness*” (Rom. 8:26) and, in truth, “*the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us*” (Rom. 8:18).

"Your Pastor has never pastored a church through a pandemic before.

When he opens, people are going to say he should have closed. When he closes, people are going to say he should have opened.

When he does not shake hands people are going to say he needs faith. When he shakes hands people are going to say he's foolish.

He's going to make some difficult decisions to protect the flock considering everything from your spiritual growth to legal liabilities that you aren't even thinking about.

Every Pastor believes that they pastor the most amazing group of people.

Remember this:

No one wants things to go well at church as much as your Pastor(s). Your Pastor needs your prayers and support right now."

~Copied

**#PrayforyourPastor #Prayforyourchurch  
#Prayforyourcommunity Tag a pastor!**

# Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2020

## INTROIT

*Psalm 86:11-15; Antiphon: Psalm 86:6*

*Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;  
listen to my plea for grace.*

*Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;  
unite my heart to fear your name.*

*I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,  
and I will glorify your name forever.*

*For great is your steadfast love toward me;  
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.*

*O God, insolent men have risen up against me;  
a band of ruthless men seeks my life,  
and they do not set you before them.*

*But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;  
listen to my plea for grace.*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** *O God,  
so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit  
that, ever mindful of Your final judgment,  
we may be stirred up to holiness of living here  
and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter;  
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.*

**C** *♪[Amen]♪*

## GRADUAL

*Romans 11:33, 36*

*Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!*

*How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!*

*For from him and through him and to him are all things.*

*To him be glory forever. Amen.*

## RESPONSE FOR PRAYERS

*After each petition:*

**P** *Lord, in Your mercy,*

**C** *hear our prayer.*