OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

Address
4729 S. Carrier Parkway
Grand Prairie, TX 75052

✠

Phone
972-642-5683

✠

Website
www.OurRedeemerGP.org

✠

Facebook
www.facebook.com/
OurRedeemerLutheranGP

✠

Worship Times
Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

✠

Pastor
Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal

You are welcome here!

We are disciples of Jesus, growing in Faith, Hope, and Love

July 19, 2026
8th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

✠ INTRODUCTION

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.

✠ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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 – God of the Fertile Fields (ACS #1063)

Text by Georgia Harkness © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.
Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ GREETING

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.

✠ GLORY TO GOD *(sung to the melody "Ode to Joy")*

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit
God Eternal, Three-in-One

Glory be to God who loved us,
Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us,
Now with God on high to reign.

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A 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.

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 44:6-8

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 The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

✠ RESPONSIVE READING - Psalm 86:11-17

11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
12 **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,**
and glorify your name forevermore.
13 For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.
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.
15 But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
16 **Turn to me and have mercy on me;**
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.
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

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 The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel

✠ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*ELW # 175)*

✠ GOSPEL – Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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 king-
dom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ SERMON

✠ HYMN OF THE DAY – Borning Cry (ELW #732)

Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker
Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ APOSTLES CREED *(ELW p. 105)*

P With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

C 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

A 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.

A 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.

A 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.

A God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and in your waters with justice and 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.

A 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 others whom we name before you now, either silently or aloud. ***(Pause)*** God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A 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.

A 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 the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

✠ OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world. After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward. ***Please stand, as you are able.***

✠ OFFERING PRAYER

A 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.

Meal

✠ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

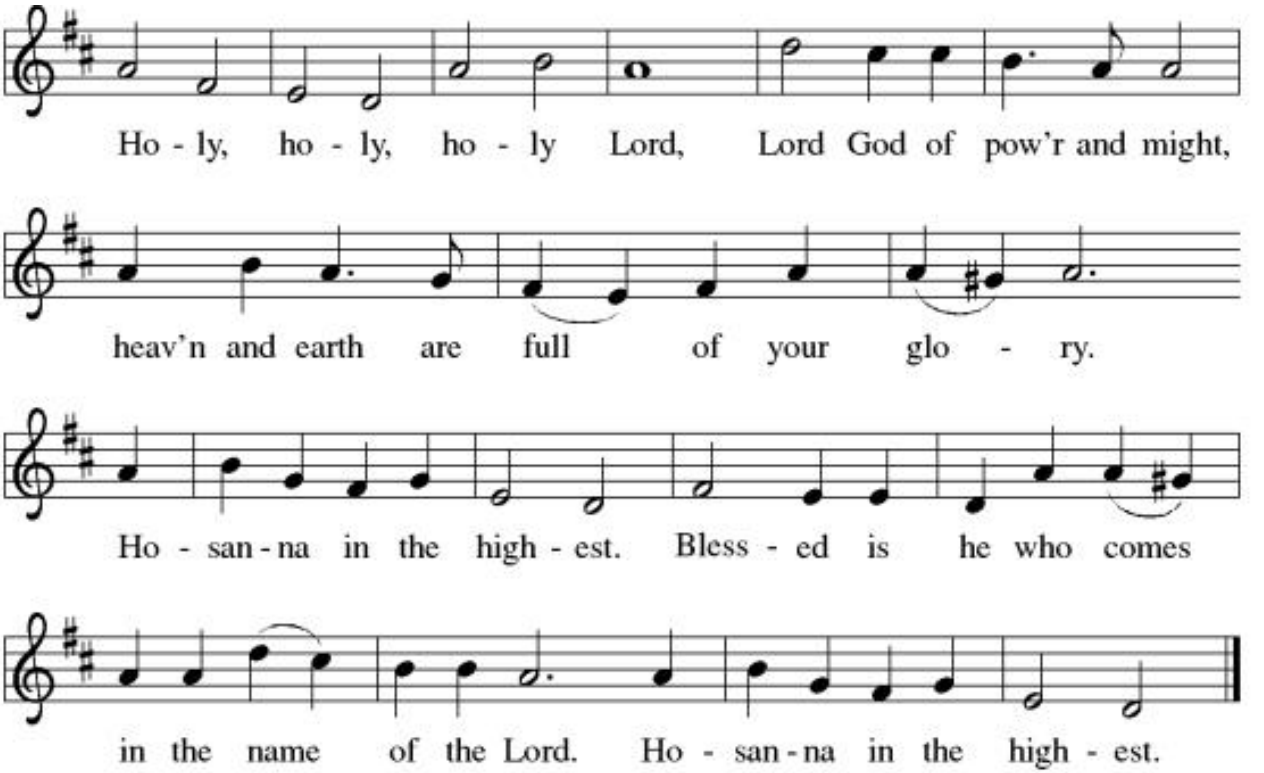
C We lift them to the Lord.

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:

✠ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – *(ELW setting 4)*



✠ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

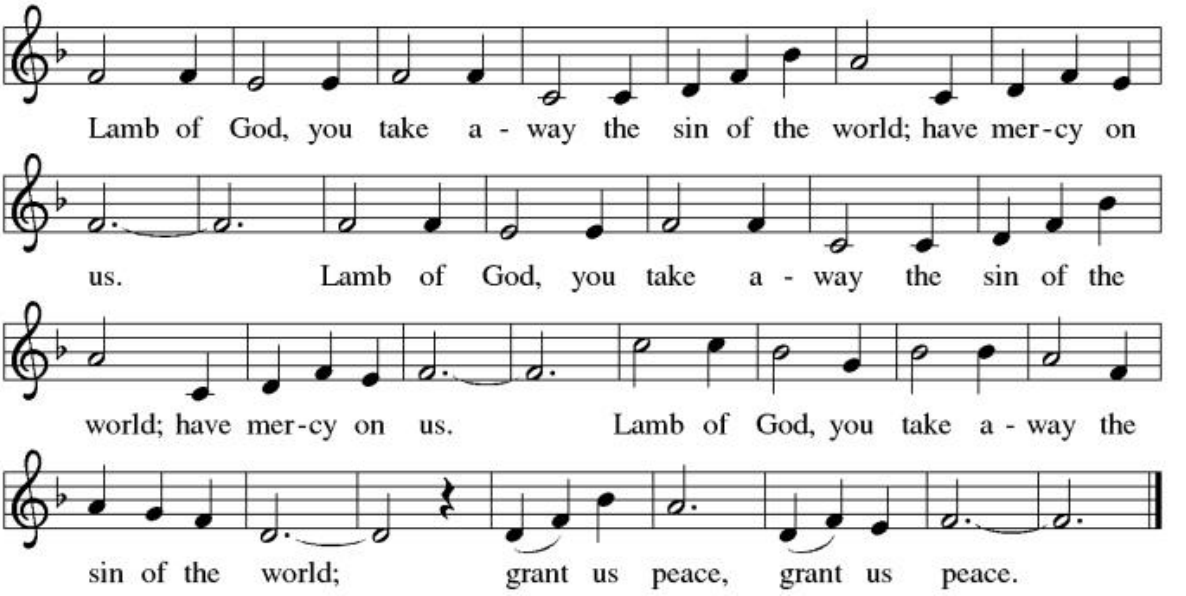
✠ INVITATION TO COMMUNION -

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION -

ALL in attendance are welcome to partake of Holy Communion, as our table is OPEN. Ushers are standing by to assist. Red juice is wine, white juice is grape juice. If you wish not to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

✠ LAMB OF GOD – *(ELW #195)*



✠ COMMUNION HYMN – As The Grains of Wheat (ELW #465)

Text and music by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A 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.

✠ BLESSING

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

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SENDING HYMN – Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (ELW #545)

✠ DISMISSAL

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

C Thanks be to God.

Please stay after the service to help wish Hattie Hammer a Happy Birthday!

✠ SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Julio Cruz-Natal
Music Director:	John Zacharias
Altar Care:	Kris Davies
Assisting Minister:	Kris Davies
Lay Reader:	Francine Bennett
Usher:	Julie Schmidt
Videographer:	Gene Davies

You are welcome here!

If you are a visitor, please take a moment to sign our guest book, located in the narthex. Restrooms are located down the hall, to the right as you exit the Sanctuary.

Would you like for us to remember you or someone you love in our prayers? – We have prayer cards available on the tables in the Narthex. Please feel free to fill one (or more) out with any special prayer requests. We will pray for these requests daily.

Our regular weekly schedule:

Sunday Worship with Holy Communion is at 10:15 am.

On Wednesdays, Worship with Holy Communion is at 7pm-
Bible study, singing, prayer, communion

Copyright info

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS002056.

Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A valid for 06/30/2026 – 06/29/2027. All rights reserved.

Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI, Church Copyright License® Number – 22093151 valid for 02/28/2026 – 02/28/2027. All rights reserved.

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.