



# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost:

## DEFINE CHRISTIAN: THE CHRISTIAN LIVES AS WHEAT AMONG WEEDS

ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES

July 23rd, 2023

**WELCOME! WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

We pray that you find comfort, peace, and motivation through God's Word today. In our worship bulletin, you will find an outline of **today's order of worship**. The entire service can be found in the hymnal, up on the screen on Sunday at St. John's and Emmanuel and livestreamed at [www.stjohnsmontello.org](http://www.stjohnsmontello.org) and also at St. John's in the Lower Level.

At St. John's, the **restrooms** are located in the link way, out the church entry way, to the left and down the stairs. At Emmanuel, they are located in the Parish Hall. You may also find a **nursery changing station** in the lower level of St. John's.

The wheat that grows in the Middle East is a variety that looks much like wild grass or weeds. It is difficult to tell wheat and weeds apart until shortly before harvest time, when the wheat stalks develop a head containing the kernels of grain. Try and pull the weeds out of a wheat field and you will likely pull up a fair amount of wheat accidentally. So you need to wait for the harvest to separate wheat from weeds. This week Jesus uses that image to illustrate life this side of heaven. Christians are pictured as wheat planted by the Lord. Evil and unbelieving evildoers are pictured as weeds. We might want God to take care of evil now—to pull up all the weeds. But he tells us to wait for the harvest. God is going to fix the problem of evil in this world, but it might not be today or even tomorrow. What does God want us to do while we wait? He wants us to live like wheat among weeds, serving the purpose for which he planted us. That means being faithful, fruitful, and mindful of the coming harvest.

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** Setting Three with communion, Hymnal Pages 188-203

*Personal Preparation for Holy Communion is on Hymnal Page 295.*

**HYMNS:** 873, 491, 641, 605(Hymns also posted on the screen)

**PSALM:** Psalm 19 "The Heavens Declare the Glory of God"

**SERMON:** Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 "Weeds Among the Wheat"

**OPENING HYMN:** 873"Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray"

**ORDER OF SERVICE:** Hymnal page 188 (also on the screen)

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 44:6-11

(Like wheat among weeds, Christians live surrounded by evil in this world. But God promises that the presence of evil in this world does not mean that God doesn't care for us.)

<sup>6</sup>"This is what the LORD says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. <sup>7</sup>Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before me what has happened since I established my ancient people, and what is yet to come—yes, let them foretell what will come. <sup>8</sup>Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago? You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one." <sup>9</sup>All who make idols are nothing, and the things they treasure are worthless. Those who would speak up for them are blind; they are ignorant, to their own shame. <sup>10</sup>Who shapes a god and casts an idol, which can profit nothing? <sup>11</sup>People who do that will be put to shame; such craftsmen are only human beings. Let them all come together and take their stand; they will be brought down to terror and shame.

**PSALM:** Psalm 19 "The Heavens Declare the Glory of God"

**SECOND READING:** Romans 1:18-25

(Jesus' parable about the wheat and weeds could give the impression that God is ambivalent about evil. But God's wrath is real and will be fully revealed at the harvest.)

<sup>18</sup>The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup>since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup>For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal

power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. <sup>21</sup>For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup>Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup>and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. <sup>24</sup>Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup>They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

## Gospel Acclamation

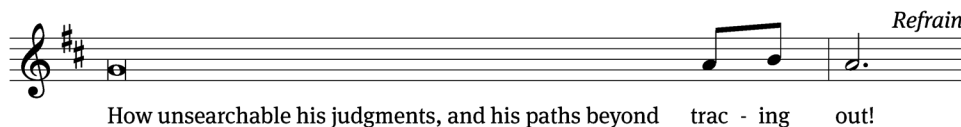
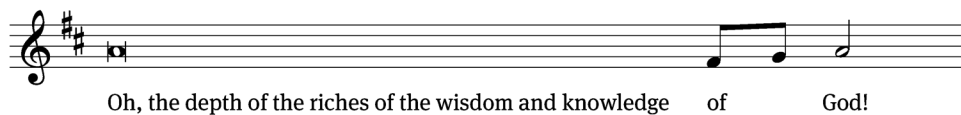
Romans 11:33



### Refrain



### Tone



Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722228

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (Sermon Text)

(The Lord has a plan to separate wheat and weeds. Christians will be perfectly separated from every evil at the final harvest.)

<sup>24</sup>Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup>But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. <sup>26</sup>When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. <sup>27</sup>"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup>" 'An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' <sup>29</sup>" 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.' " <sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." <sup>37</sup>He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. <sup>40</sup>"As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. <sup>42</sup>They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where 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. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** 491 "Come, You Thankful People, Come"

**SERMON:** Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 "Weeds Among the Wheat"

**FOR A LIFE OF SERVICE AND INTERCESSORY PRAYERS** (See bulletin p. 5)

## OFFERING AND PRAYER

**DISTRIBUTION:** Hymnal page 199

**Visitors:** The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that those joining us at the table of our Lord also be united with us in confession of faith by membership in a WELS or ELS congregation.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN:** 641 "Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide"

**CLOSING HYMN:** 605 "From All That Dwell below the Skies"

## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

- For the sick and others facing trials, including: Gale "Blackie" Boyd, Bob Buehrens, Michael Cox (Marjorie Fabian's brother), Terry Coyle Jr. (Sue Brown's nephew), Vicki Davis (Marilyn Riemer's sister), Edith Duesterhoeft, Reinold Eckelberg, Ken Elmer (Sally's husband), Earl Ewert, Judy Fandrey, John Gaedke (Dan Finger's uncle), Donna Gatzke, Dennis Gray (Mary Dahlke's brother), Dennis Gromowski (Josh's father, Harvey Rudolph's neighbor), Kelleen Grucza (Judy Fandrey's daughter), Del Henke, Drake Hunter, Jerry & Darlene Hunter (Bonnie Chapman's parents), Xzander Jahr, Kris Kemp (Diane Hintz' daughter), Bob Klapper, Dale Kozlowski, Jeff Krueger (Diane Hintz's son), Debbie & Steve Parrish, Melissa Prater, Karen Radke, Roxanne Schmanke, Bob Sluga (Sherry's husband), Annette St. Onge, Tom Stempniak, DuWayne Sommerfeld, Harvey Rudolph's neighbor, Dominick Thoman (the father of Janessa Roberts, Harvey Rudolph's neighbor), Betty & James Weber, Paul Weldon (added this week: \_\_)
- For missions
- For vacation time

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## This Week: July 23-29, 2023

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost:

DEFINE CHRISTIAN: THE CHRISTIAN LIVES AS WHEAT AMONG WEEDS

|                                |           |                          |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Monday<br>through<br>Wednesday |           | Soccer camp at Princeton |
| Tuesday                        | 6:30 p.m. | Worship Meeting at SJ    |
| Saturday                       | 4:30 p.m. | St. John's Worship       |

## Next Sunday: July 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

DEFINE CHRISTIAN: THE CHRISTIAN SEEKS SPIRITUAL WEALTH

|            |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | Emmanuel Worship         |
| 9:00 a.m.  | Emmanuel Council Meeting |
| 10:00 a.m. | St. John's Worship       |

### Attendance

| Date    | EM | SJ |
|---------|----|----|
| 7/15/23 | -  | 14 |
| 7/16/23 | -  | 86 |

## HOUSE DEMOLITION PROJECT INFORMATION

House removal cost \$17,342.00

Donations to date \$11,375.07 (from July dedicated funds report)

Funds Needed \$5,966.93

The demolition is projected to start next week.

Many thanks to Jacob Jaster for all of his time and effort on this project.

*Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of your crops.* Proverbs 3:9

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00AM:** Emmanuel Congregational Meeting.

**Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 4:30PM:** Board of Education Meeting at St. John's.

**Mondays, August 14<sup>th</sup>&21<sup>st</sup> 6:30PM:** Adult Choir Practice at St. John's.

**Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30PM:** St. John's Council Meeting

**Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> 4:00PM:** Beth Barenz installation and welcome fellowship meal at St. John's PRINCETON.

**Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>:** First Day of School.

## **DONATIONS TO THE SCHOOL**

Christ Alone Lutheran Academy (formerly St. John's School) and St. John's Little Lambs would like to warmly thank all those who have donated time, money, and gifts to the school and 3K/4K program. Going forward, for accounting purposes, all checks given to the school need to be made out to Christ Alone Lutheran Academy (CALA) or St. John's Little Lambs. The bank may not allow us to accept checks into our accounts if written to "St. John's School". Thank you for your generous gifts, and for your help in ensuring funds go where they are intended.

**Usher's schedule (St. John's):**

**Saturday 7/22/23 & Sunday 7/23/23:**

Jerre Duerr, Joe Zauner, Sr., Gordon Krause, Kevin Kaul, Corey Kaul

**Saturday 7/29/23 & Sunday 7/30/23:**

Ben Jaster, Jacob Jaster, Matt Neuhauser, Jeff Reimer, Mark Emond

**Saturday 8/5/23 & Sunday 8/6/23:**

Glen Bubolz, Martin Schmanke, Matthew Kath, Michael Kempley

**Saturday 8/12/23 & Sunday 8/13/23:**

James Wachholz, Zeb Zuehls, Thomas Wojtalewicz, Kenny Wojtalewicz, Chuck Boetcher, Jesse Schable

**Saturday 8/19/23 & Sunday 8/20/23:**

Paul Van Treek, Matt Borzick, Ken Borzick, James Henke, Haiden Van Treek, Nolan Van Treek, Brody Henke

**GREETERS**

Anyone who would like to volunteer to be a greeter at St. John's, there is a sign-up sheet in the linkway. Families with children are encouraged. Also, ushers may have their families (including grandchildren!) serve as greeters on the days they usher. This is an excellent way to serve Our Lord by greeting people as they come to worship.



Do you like to sing? Would you enjoy praising our Savior with others from our congregations throughout a portion of our church year? If so, we would love to have you sing with our Joint Emmanuel/St. John's choir! Students in high school and all adults are welcome to join! We will sing for the opening service of Christ Alone Lutheran Academy this year which is also the installation service of Miss Beth Barenz, our new teacher in grades 3-5.

The choir meets on Monday evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm throughout the school year. Since the opening service of our school is Sunday, August 28, we will have 2 practices in August. We will meet on 8/14 and 8/21, both at 6:30 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Sellnow.  
Email [lynnsellnow@stjohnsmontello.org](mailto:lynnsellnow@stjohnsmontello.org) or Phone 616-826-0816. We hope to sing praises with you! Thank you!



# WELS Wind Ensemble



*Invites you to its Summer Concert!*



## ***Celebrate America!***

*Songs that celebrate America's*  
**HISTORY & CULTURE**

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**★ TWO DATES!**

**★ TWO LOCATIONS!**

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**Sunday, August 6 - 2:00 PM**

***At The Osthoff Resort near Elkhart Lake***

*Beautiful location - Free admission*

**Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets**

*(bad weather: moved inside)*



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**Sunday, August 13 - 3:00 PM**

***Good Shepherd Lutheran Church***

***Fellowship hall - Beaver Dam***

**Air Conditioned - Easy access - Ample parking**

**Traditional Hot Dog Supper!**



**WHAT'S  
HAPPENING  
THIS**

# **SUMMER**

**20  
23**

**AUG  
10, 13**

**PARENT INFO MTG  
MONTELLO @ 6PM**

**PRINCETON FLEA MARKET  
CONCESSIONS  
6AM - 1PM**

**AUG  
19**

**AUG  
24**

**FILL YOUR DESK  
NIGHT** MONTELLO &  
PRINCETON 4:30 - 6PM

**MS. BARENZ INSTALLATION  
& OPENING SERVICE  
PRINCETON @ 4 PM**

**AUG  
27**

**AUG  
28**

**1ST DAY OF SCHOOL  
8 AM**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[WWW.CHRISTALONELUTHERANACADEMY.ORG](http://WWW.CHRISTALONELUTHERANACADEMY.ORG)**

## ***Help us stay in touch!***

*Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.*



**Welcome to our visitors!**

**Find & Like us on Facebook**

**Visit our website:** [www.stjohnsmontello.org](http://www.stjohnsmontello.org)

**Pastor Pete Zietlow:** 608-408-7830, **Email:** [zietlowPL6@hotmail.com](mailto:zietlowPL6@hotmail.com)

**Principal & 6-8 Grade Teacher:** Larry Sellnow: 616-822-6689

**Email:** [principal@crystalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:principal@crystalonelutheranacademy.net)

**3-5 Grade Teacher:** Beth Barenz

**1-2 Grade Teacher:** Shelley Myers: 920-285-7554

**Kindergarten Teacher:** Lynn Sellnow: 616-826-0816

**Little Lambs Director:** Barbara Stelter: 816-853-9029

**CALA Secretary/Office:** Ciara Neuhauser: 920-481-9002

**Church Office:** Matthew Kath 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

**Church/School Address:** 313 E Montello St. Montello, WI 53949

**Church Email:** [scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org](mailto:scsecretary@stjohnsmontello.org)

**School Email:** [secretary@crystalonelutheranacademy.net](mailto:secretary@crystalonelutheranacademy.net)