

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 S. Defiance Street + Archbold, OH 43502
Deacon Steve Basselman

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, 2023

"Open Now The Gates of Beauty"



1 O - pen now the gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore you; come Lord, al - so un - to me;
3 Here your praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here your seed is du - ly sown;
4 Here in - crease my faith and quick - en, let me keep your gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear you, let your will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find you and a - dore you, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may your word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near you while all peo - ple you do feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter now, let it be your tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 23, 2023

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.

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the congregation

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRELUDE

“La Rejouissance”
from Music for the Royal Fireworks
G.F. Handel

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN**

“Open Now The Gates of Beauty”

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Father of mercies, we have need of your grace; let the same hand that gives the seed provide a fruitful place within ourselves. As we come before you with humble hearts open them with the seed of your Word, your Word of forgiveness. Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one another.

for personal reflection

Loving God,

we confess to you that we are like stony fields.

We are capable of growing and sharing goodness, but we allow goodness to wither and weeds to flourish.

We let the power of sin consume our lives and we have often failed to do the things that we should.

Open our hearts to receive the seeds of your Gospel.

Rain your mercy upon us and shine your warm light into every dark place of our lives, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Behold, God does a new thing; through death God brings new life. Let our selfishness die and become part of the soil of God's creation that life may sprout from us. By grace we have been saved and our sins are forgiven. May almighty God strengthen us with power from the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Amen

***GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

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; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

THE CHURCH LISTENS

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 44:6–8

⁶Thus 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.

⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them speak up and tell me now.

Who has announced long ago the things to come?

Let them tell us what is going to happen.

⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you long ago and declared it?

You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me?

There is no other rock; I know not one.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 86:11-17 – *read responsively*

Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to worship your name.

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

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

The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they do not look to you as their god.

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

Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save me; I am your child.

Show me a sign of your kindness, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;

You, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:12–25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — ¹³for 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. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ — if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o - pen to the seed of your



word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where



love can grow and peace is un - der - stood. When my heart is hard,



break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.



When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart,



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

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

³⁶Then 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." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

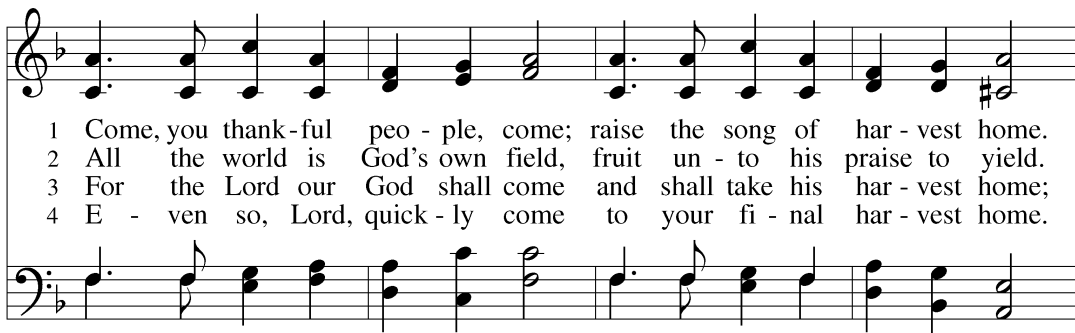
MESSAGE

"Weedy Wheat"


THE CHURCH RESPONDS

*HYMN OF THE DAY

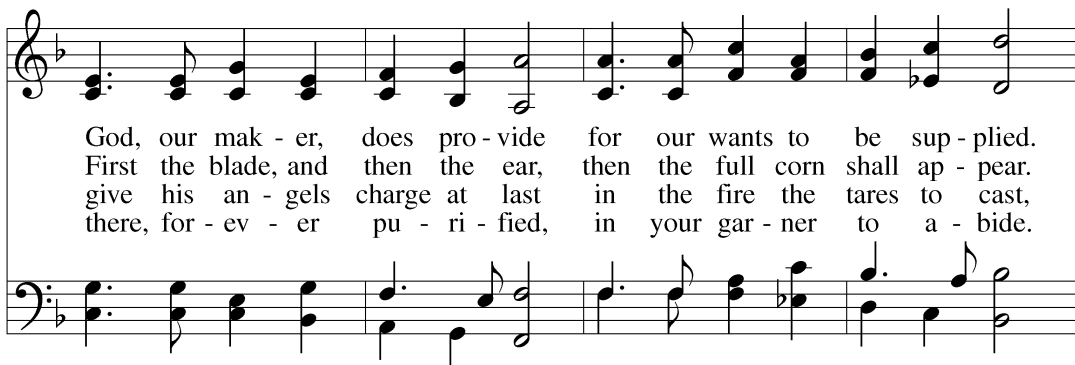
“Come, You Thankful People”



1 Come, you 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 your fi - nal har - vest home.



All is 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 all your peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, does 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 your 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 your an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

***PROFESSION OF FAITH** – *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 into hell.
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**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (*We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you"*)

OFFERING OF GIFTS

PRAISE TO THE LORD

JACKSON DELANEY, PIANO

*OFFERTORY

“Father We Thank You”



1 Fa - ther, we thank you that you plant - ed your ho - ly name with -
2 Watch o'er your church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,



in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus your
guard it still; per - fect it in your love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -



Son to us im - parts. Lord, you have made all for your plea - sure,
formed un - to your will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,



and giv'n us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands your



bread e - ter - nal; yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.
church be gath - ered in - to your king - dom by your Son.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Each petition ends...

Lord, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

WE ARE SENT TO SERVE

*** BENEDICTION**

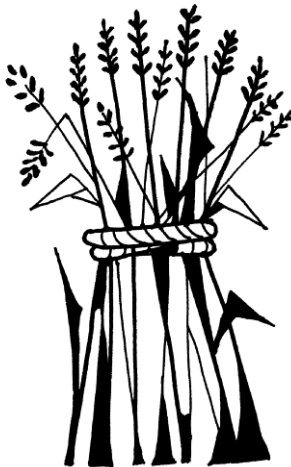
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen



***CLOSING HYMN**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“ODE TO JOY”
BEETHOVEN

Good Soil Text and Music: Handt Hanson © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing. Changing Church Inc. ELW#512

St. Martin’s Lutheran Church

203 S. Defiance Street Archbold OH 43502
Phone Number: 419-445-4656
Web Site: www.the-welcome-place.org

Office Hours:

Deacon Steve Basselman

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. morning
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri. afternoon

Brenda Shibler

Tues. – Fri. 8-12:30

Matthew Wachtman

Mon. & Tues. All Day
Wed. Afternoon & Thur. Morning

Jake Keil

Tue – Thurs. 9-4:00 pm

e-mail: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org
jakek@the-welcome-place.org

steveb@the-welcome-place.org
mattheww@the-welcome-place.org

Deacon Steve’s Cell Phone: 419-572-6091

Worship Services: 9:00 am each Sunday
6:00 pm each Wednesday, Informal Service
-9:00 Sunday live broadcast on Facebook and YouTube

We welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. - Romans 15:7 ESV

St. Martin's Worship Servants . . .

Ministers of Worship	-Everyone Present
Organist	-Deacon Steve Basselman
Preacher	-Deacon Steve Basselman
Trumpets	-Phil Hoverman, Anita Roth, Kate Roth
Reader	-McKenna Whitacre
Usher Team Leader	-Jim Wyse
Sound System	-Bill Phelps
Altar Guild	-Joan Meyer, Janet Wyse
Offering Counters	-Jo Ann Liechty, Jo Ann Benecke

Welcome Place Wednesday Meals . . . Welcome Place Wednesday has switched from its school year program to the summer. We are looking for people to help host the meals. This can be for the summer or single Wednesday or multiple Wednesdays. Cooks, helpers and servers are needed. Meals will be for up to 40 people. They can be simple summer style meals. Meals are served from 5:15 to 6:00 on Wednesday. There are funds available for reimbursement of items purchased up to \$50 a week if needed. A sign-up sheet will be in the entry way. See Darren Sonnenberg if you have questions.

Help is Needed at Care & Share Thrift Shops. . . Care & Share is looking for someone to manage the pick-up and delivery part of our furniture area. This would be approx. 15-20 hours per week. Part of the hours would be working in the store, preparing furniture for sale, as well as helping out wherever needed. Contact Pat King, Furniture Coordinator 419 445 1926 Ext 202 or Kathy Nofziger General Mgr. Ext 100

VBS Donations . . . Please bring all donations to the Church this week.

Online Giving - Mobile Access

Mobile users can now access the giving page to set up recurring donations or make one time donations directly from phones using this QR code.

To change or delete recurring donations you will still need to go to:

<https://givingtools.com>

and sign in to your account.



This Week at St. Martin's

Today – July 23

Worship, 9:00 am
High School & Middle School to Cedar Point

Tuesday – July 25

Men's Breakfast Fellowship, 7:00 am at McDonald's
Sewing, 9:00 am
No Community Meals through the end of the summer

Wednesday – July 26

McDonald's & Devotions with Jake, 2:00 pm
Welcome Meal, 5:15 pm
Welcome Place Worship, 6:00 pm

Thursday – July 27

Women's Breakfast Bible Study, 7:00 am, at Home Restaurant
Bulletin Deadline, 9:00 am

Next Sunday – July 30

Worship, 9:00 am, Holy Communion

Last Week at St. Martin's . . .

Receipts Week of July 16, 2023, Budget and Year to Date

Operating Contributions	\$7,237.00	Budgeted Weekly Operating Need	\$6,135.00
Benevolence Received	\$257.00	Budgeted Weekly Benevolence Need	\$640.00
Other Designated Income	\$695.00	As of June 30, 2023	
Total Income	\$8,189.00	YTD Operating Received	\$135,661.96
Worship: Sun./Wed./Total	89/21/110	YTD Operating Expenses	(\$149,788.27)
		Net Income/(Deficit)	(\$14,126.31)

St. Martin's Prayer Line

For our prayers in worship this morning and our daily devotions in the coming week, we remember:
Bishop Daniel Beaudoin, Synod Staff members and all the office staff, that they may be supported
in their ministry to the Church

The Bethel Parish of Dodoma, St. Martin's Companion Congregation, may they continue to carry
out God's ministry and mission in Tanzania

Mission Partner Congregation of Redeemer Lutheran, Toledo may they continue to carry out
God's ministry and mission in the Toledo Area

Family & Friends of Stephene Medaugh, Amy Blankenship's Family, may we know the comforting
presence of our Lord Jesus Christ

High School & Middle Schoolers traveling to Cedar Point today, keep them safe

People of Ukraine during this time of unrest, may they know the presence of our Lord Jesus

All First Responders, Hospital Staff, and Caregivers

For those who need healing, may they know the healing hand of God

Owen Basselman, Pat Basselman's grandson

Leo Brennan, brother-in-law of John Trudel

Jeff Cook, Ann Ott's son

Orlo Cully, brother of Pat Richards, Health Concerns

Jerry Geiger

Jeanise Hoeffel, Jane Sonnenberg's sister

Steve & Sue Hurst, Health Concerns

Amy Johns

Shelly Kammeyer, daughter in law of Sharon, Leukemia

Amanda Karduck, friend of Sara Adams & Jan Delaney

Michael Koch, friend of Melanie & Dick Nagel

Bonnie R. Lauber

Conrad and Karen Perry, Andi Erbskorn's brother and sister-in-law

Eva Pahl, Pat Basselman's niece, health concerns

Tom Plezia, friend of Karen Stevenson

Chris Shafer

Marilyn Sholl

Al Siewert

Peg Winzeler

Joe Wyse

Kelsy Wyse

Homebound – Louise Wyse

For those who need God's protection and the assurance that he is near

All St. Martin's Members as they prepare for Ministry

Our College students both close to home and far away

All members, family & friends who serve in our military, Steve & Sara (Delaney) Adams, Patrick
Cirenza (June Hayes), Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Ashtyn Frederick,

Christopher Goertz, Brendon Johns, Kasyn Schaffner, Spencer Short

①① Prayer requests for the people of St. Martin's ①①

(Note, we include a person's name with permission.)