

July 19, 2026

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

PSALM 86:11-17 (Read responsively)

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 LESSON 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.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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 kingdom of their Father.
Let anyone with ears listen!”