

NORTHWOOD UMC ONLINE WORSHIP – July 19, 2020

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK – Matthew 13:43

⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears^[a] listen!

WELCOME/CHECKING IN

Where do you... see God? Need God? Feel Joy? Feel Gratitude?

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP –

L: Weeds and seeds, growing together.

P: Each will influence the other.

L: What will we learn from the weeds?

P: Trials and tribulations, choices that have not always worked out. Weeds can teach us about perseverance — consider the tough dandelion plant pushing its way up through the pavement — for some it's just a weed, but for others there are lessons to be learned.

L: What will be gained from seeds?

P: Inside each one of us is a special person, waiting to be nurtured to wholeness. Each seed is unique; each has its own gifts to offer.

L: In God's garden, God's love extends to both — asking both to consider what each has to offer to a hurting world.

A: Lord, help us to be good seeds, bearing fruits of kindness, justice and compassion. Keep us mindful of those for whom life has been difficult and yet they persist in trying to make each day better. Be in our hearts, O Lord, and in our lives. AMEN.

Ministries Matter

GATHERING UNISON PRAYER

All-knowing God,
We gather together with praise and thanksgiving
for who You are,
and for all that You have done for us.

You know us better than we know ourselves—
all our thoughts and actions—
and yet You love us.

No matter where we go or what we do,
Your love encircles us—ahead and behind—
gently leading and guiding and blessing.
We praise You for Your love
and Your faithful presence in our lives.

May Your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship together—
examine our attitudes and actions,
lay bare the things we need to confess,
challenge us with Your Word,
and guide us on to paths that lead to life.

For we are Your people, called by Your name. AMEN.

Ministries Matter

KINGDOM TIME

HYMN – “I Love You Lord” FWS #2068 (sing twice)

SPECIAL MUSIC – by Asbury UMC

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

¹ O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

³ You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

⁷ Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

¹¹ If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,”

¹² even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.

²⁴ See if there is any wicked ^[a] way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting. ^[b]

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

²⁴ He put before them 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.’”

Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds

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^[a] listen!

MESSAGE- “Seedy Business”

INVITATION TO GIVE TO THE LIVING CHRIST, OURSELVES, OUR LOVE AND OUR GIFTS

Presentation of our Gifts and Offerings:

Mail your offering to:

Northwood UMC, P.O. Box 295, Esko, MN 55733

DOXOLOGY – “Give Thanks” FWS #2036

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – UMH #887

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN – “Hymn of Promise” UMH #707 vs. 1,2,3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION/DISMISSAL

“The Trees of the Field” FWS #2279