

# Black Forest Lutheran Church

12455 Black Forest Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80908  
Church Office - 495-2221 Tues. – Thur. 9:00-2:00p / Fri. 9:00-12:00p

Ken Hohag, Pastor  
Andrew Koetsier, Youth and Family Director  
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost / July 23, 2023

The order of worship is in the **red** hymnal. **Hymns** are in the back of the hymnal.  
Liturgy is in the front listed as p.

*Please turn off your cellphone*

## GATHERING

Prelude and Announcements  
Brief Order of Confession p. 94  
\*Gathering Song *Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word* **red 663**  
Greeting/Kyrie p. 138  
Prayer of the Day  
Pour out upon us, O Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right, that we, who cannot even exist without you, may have the strength to live according to your will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## WORD

Children's Sermon Andrew Koetsier  
First Reading Isaiah 44:6-8  
Second Reading Romans 8:12-27  
Gospel Acclamation p. 142  
Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43  
Response: **Thanks be to God**  
Sermon Sighs Too Deep for Words Pastor Allan Oman  
\*Hymn of the Day *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* **red 843**  
Apostles' Creed p. 105  
Prayers of Intercession Response: **Hear our Prayer**  
Sharing of the Peace

## MEAL

Offering *Children of the Heavenly Father* **red 781**  
\*Offering Prayer  
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.  
Great Thanksgiving p. 144  
Lord's Prayer p. 145  
Lamb of God p. 146  
Distribution Hymns **red 464, 528, 471, 469**  
\*Prayer after Communion

*\*Congregation please stand*

*Continued on next page.*

## SENDING

Benediction  
Sending Song *Our Father, by Whose Name* **red 640**  
Dismissal  
Postlude

**Our mission is to glorify God through  
worship, prayer, education, and service as  
ambassadors of Christ.**

**Visitors and Members**—Please sign our blue Friendship Book and pass it down the row. A nursery for infants & toddlers is through the narthex double doors. A nursing chair with a retractable privacy screen for mothers is available in the nursery.

**Holy Communion Instructions**—All baptized Christians are invited to the Lord's table. Grape juice is available in the pre-filled glasses for those who cannot drink wine. Gluten-free bread is also available.

✠ *Today we welcome Allan Oman, a NALC pastor from Las Cruces, NM.*

✠ *Thank you to Steve Lord for leading worship today while Pastor Ken is away. Pastor Ken will be back the office on Tuesday.*

### Serving Today

**9:00a**

<b>Acolyte</b>	Brian Gould
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Roxie Larson
<b>Assistants</b>	Jon & Lisa Fountain
<b>Greeters</b>	Randy & Marcia Johnson
<b>Nursery Attendants</b>	Jeannette Gould / Alex Gould
<b>Organist</b>	Barb Gurnett
<b>Reader</b>	Dave Reily
<b>Recorder</b>	Dave Williams
<b>Sound</b>	Jack Yonce
<b>Uploader</b>	George Cooper
<b>Ushers</b>	Scott & Ann Buttermore

*Flowers are given today by Roxie Larson to the Glory of God.*

**First Reading - Isaiah 44:6-8**

**44**<sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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.

**Second Reading - Romans 8:12-26**

**8**<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, not to live according to the flesh—<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For 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!' <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and 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. <sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that 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. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. <sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

**Gospel - Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

**13**<sup>24</sup> He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; <sup>25</sup> but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. <sup>27</sup> 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?" <sup>28</sup> He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" <sup>29</sup> But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> 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.'" <sup>36</sup> 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.' <sup>37</sup> He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; <sup>38</sup> the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, <sup>42</sup> and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, 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. Let anyone with ears listen!