

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

July 19, 2026

**Pre-Service Music:**    *We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*    Mark Hayes

**Welcome and Announcements:**

**Prelude:**            *Peaceful Piano #20*            Mark Hayes

**Song of Greeting #386:**    *Come Worship God, vs. 1*

**Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day**

Come by here, our Lord,

come by here.

**Prayer of the Day**

**Sovereign God, your Spirit is ever present with us. Where can we flee your presence? You are the beginning and the ending, the first and the last, and all that exists in between. When your Spirit seems hidden from us, teach us to recognize your presence and to respond, for your name's sake. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #403:**    *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*    (stand)

**Call to Confession:**

There is goodness within us that grows like fresh wheat.  
There is also sin within us that chokes that wheat like weeds.

**Let us bring all of who we are to God, who can separate out what is good, so that we are not overcome with evil.**

## **Prayer of Confession**

**Ever-present God, there is no place where you are not with us. You see us at our worst and at our best. There is much we would hide from you—the ways we harm your creation, the ways we mistreat others, the ways we turn away when we should turn toward. Even as you know us, forgive us. Guide our thoughts, our words, our actions, that you may delight in us as we delight in you. Amen.**

## **Declaration of Forgiveness**

**Beloved, hear the good news: God knows us and forgives us and leads us in the way of everlasting life.**

**Thanks be to God!**

**The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.**

## **Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Gloria #583:**                      *Glory to God English/Latin*

**Hymn of the Day #346:** *For the Healing of the Nations* vs. 1, 2, & 4

**Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.**

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**God of grace. Hear our 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Hymn #453:**              *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People.*              (seated)

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**Holy, Holy, Holy One, guide us by the Spirit of truth to hear the Word of life you speak, and to give all glory, honor, and praise to your threefold name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Scriptures for the Day:**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Genesis 28:10-19a.

**Second Lesson:** Romans 8:12 – 25.

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 13:24 – 30, 36 - 43.

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**Thanks be to God.** Deuteronomy 6:6

**Sermon:**

*A Thin Place*

Jonathan Kimball

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. **Amen.** Revelation 21:6

**Affirmation of Faith** *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33*

**The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.**

**Dedication of Tithes and Offerings:** (please be seated)

**Offering #694:** *Great God of Every Blessing vs. 1 and 3*

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**God of unending gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness. As you are generous, we want to be generous too. May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world, so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn #490:** *Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters*  
(stand)

**Charge and Benediction:** (remain standing)

May the blessing of the Trinity—  
holy, holy, holy Lord—  
be with you now and always.

**Alleluia!**

Isaiah 6:3

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”  
And I said,

**“Here I am; send me!” Amen.**

Isaiah 6:8

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord!**

**Postlude:** *Halle, Halle Doxology* Pepper Choplin

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