

**Welcome to Lord of Life
Lutheran Church
August 10, 2025
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**



Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Welcome: Lord of Life Lutheran Church’s long-standing credo is “We share God’s Love”.

LoL provides a welcoming and safe place for worship, comfort, solace, and reflection. We are called by Jesus to love God and one another: to practice radical hospitality, and to serve all without reservation, stipulations or regard to your race, ethnic background, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical and mental abilities, socioeconomic position, family status, or where you are in your faith journey. You are a unique and beloved child of God. We welcome you to join us in worship and communion and be part of our commitment to anti-racism, social and economic justice and environmental care.

Worship: *Communion:* All are welcome to share in Holy Communion. Individual packets available near the entrance to the worship center.

Passing of the Peace: It is ok to greet those sitting near you. Please remember people have different levels of personal space which may vary from day to day and situation to situation. You can be respectful by asking, “May I hug you?” or “Would you like a handshake.”

Physical Distancing: It is still important to be aware of distancing. Pews along the sides of the church near the stained-glass windows are for people who want space; please space yourselves accordingly.

Children Welcome: Kids of all ages are welcome in service, and we celebrate their joyful wiggles and giggles! There are kids bags in the back of the sanctuary.

*Information, service & liturgy instructions are shown in italic or **bold italic** type on the following pages.*

Portions of the liturgy spoken by the leaders are shown in plain type.

*Portions of the liturgy spoken by the assembly are shown in **bold type**.*

PRELUDE

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838

- 1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

All are seated

Word

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants

be.” ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 33:12-22

- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!
Happy the people chosen to be God’s heritage!
- ¹³ **The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**
- ¹⁴ God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ **God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- ¹⁷ **The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ **to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.
- ²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God

enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

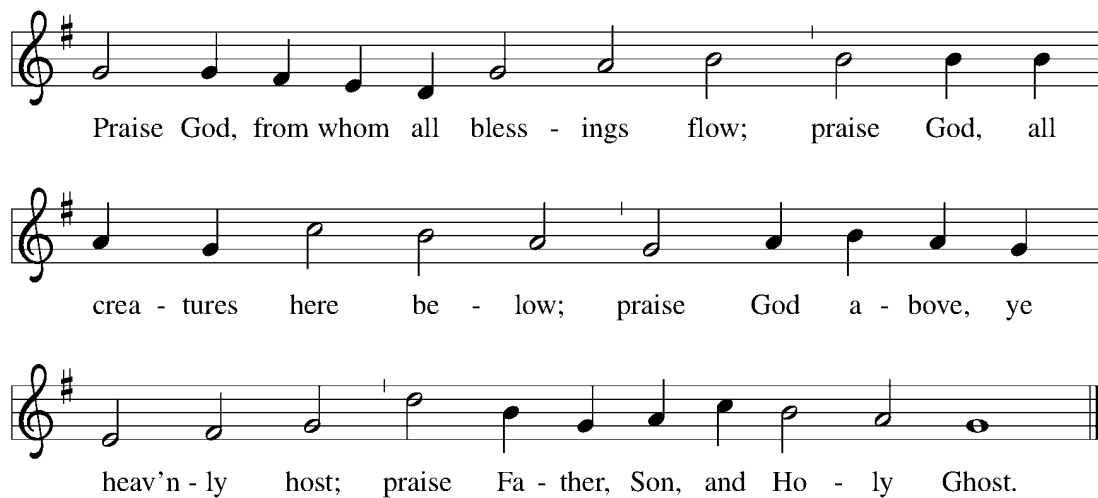
¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands as they are comfortable



Alleluia. Keep awake and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Alleluia. (Matt. 24:42, 44)

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:32-40

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelve chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit

down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

All are seated

SERMON

Pastor Adam Dowd

HYMN OF THE DAY

I'm ready

Tracy Chapman

Response to the Word

The assembly stands as they are comfortable.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's 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 power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**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**

All are seated.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

Your mercy is great.

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

Your mercy is great.

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need especially for Aimee, Donna, Elaine, Marla, Ken, Vernetta, Roberta, Judy, Linda, Paul, Toni, Kerry, Jim, Caryl, Gale, and Cor. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

*The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord with phrases like “**Peace be with you.**” If you have your phone available, text a word of peace to someone who is worshiping alone.*

OFFERING AND PRAYER

The offering plate is brought forward as a sign of the good gifts, ourselves included, God has given us.

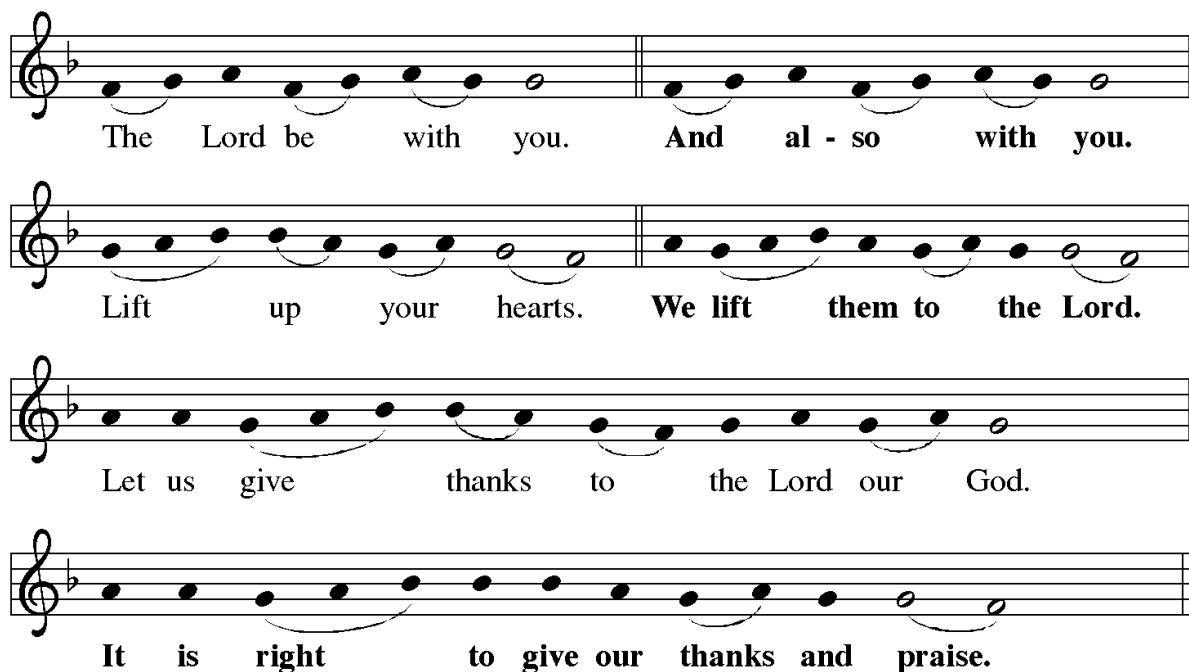
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Meal

The assembly stands as they are comfortable.



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER...

join their unending hymn

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The minister continues the eucharistic prayer.

....We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us “*SING*” the pray that Jesus taught us:

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

COMMUNION

All are seated. Please take time to prepare yourselves and your communion elements.

We prioritize people with mobility issues. We invite you to come forward in your own time and take a position at the altar that is most accessible for you.

SONG DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

The love of God abounds in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fills your hearts;

and the life of the Spirit
bless you and give you peace.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy,
The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace.
Amen

SENDING HYMN O God, Our Help in Ages Past ELW 632

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 our shelter from the stormy blast,
 and our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne
 your saints have dwelt secure;
 sufficient is your arm alone,
 and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood
 or earth received its frame,
 from everlasting you are God,
 to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight
 are like an evening gone,
 short as the watch that ends the night
 before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Litanies of Welcome and Farewell-Interim Ministry Network, Baltimore, Maryland

We thank you for your ministry here today:

Presiding Minister

Pastor Adam Dowd

Assisting Minister

Alex Kerfin

Lector

Art Kardatzke

Organist

Rosita Yao

Guitarist

Christopher Vincent and Pastor Adam Dowd

Greeters

Connie Allekian

Ushers

Bruce and Arlene Danielson

Acolyte

Alex Kerfin

Video

Roberta Sejnost and Sherry Sejnost

Announcements 8-10-2025

Lunch Bunch We will meet at Red Lobster, 3001 Finley Road, Downers Grove on **Tuesday, August 12th at 11:30 AM**. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Linda Matta at 630-297-8894. Please plan to pay with cash, as cash is preferred by the restaurant.

Outdoor Worship Join us as we take our worship outside on the second Wednesday of the month, August 13th at 6:30 pm. We'll gather under the open sky to celebrate God's presence in His creation. Invite your friends and family to this special time of praise and fellowship.

Treat Table On August 17th at 11:00 AM come and celebrate Janet Haines 90th Birthday with the members of Lord of Life.

Upcoming Meetings

August 11 – Hymn Pick @ 1:00 PM

August 20 – RIC Meeting @ 12:00 PM

August 25 – Property Meeting @ 1:00 PM

Please pray for members:

Aimee Jimenez	Donna Motes	Elaine Sherman
Marla Suda	Ken Gulliford	Vern Sima
Kerry Spitznagle	Roberta Sejnost	Judy Padera
Linda Matta	Paul Ristau	Toni Blesy
Jim Eckwall	Cor Peterson	Caryl Schaer
Gale Dyskie		

A full list of relatives, friends, and military personnel for whom we pray is emailed weekly on Friday.

Last Week's Giving – \$

Electronic Donation for the month of July- \$

THIS WEEK AT LORD OF LIFE

Sunday	8/10	10:00 AM	Worship
		12:00 PM	Darien Fest
		12:00 PM	Loving Word
Monday	8/11	1:00 PM	Hymn Pick
Tuesday	8/12	11:30 AM	Lunch Bunch
		5:00 PM	Overeaters Anonymous
Wednesday	8/13	10:00 AM	Bible Study
		6:30 PM	Outdoor Worship
		7:00 PM	One Day at a Time
Thursday	8/14	5:00 PM	Dance Academy
Friday	8/15	9:30 AM	Cards
Saturday	8/16	9:00 AM	SDA
Sunday	8/17	10:00 AM	Worship
		11:00 AM	Treat Table
		12:00 PM	Loving Word