



*Loved by God,  
Sent to Serve.*

**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 17, 2023  
10:30 am**

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
**Setting Eight**

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Prelude: *Lord I Lift Your Name on High***

**Rick Founds**

**Gathering Song: *Shout to the North***

**Chorus:**

Shout to the north and the south;  
Sing to the east and the west  
Jesus is Savior to all,  
Lord of heaven and earth

1 Men of faith, rise up and sing  
of the great and glorious King  
You are strong when you feel weak,  
in your brokenness complete. **Chorus**

2 Rise up women of the truth,  
stand and sing to broken hearts  
who can know the healing pow'r  
of our awesome King of love. **Chorus**

3 Rise up church with broken wings,  
fill this place with songs again  
of our God who reigns on high  
By His grace again we'll fly. **Chorus (x2)**

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**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.**

## Kyrie

ELW p. 184

*The assembly joins in with the refrain when invited.*

let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**  
**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**  
**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

## Canticle of Praise

ELW p. 185

### Refrain

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

- 1 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**
- 3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. **Refrain (x2)**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.  
Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight  
in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12**

*This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you

despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Song:   *Word of God, Speak***

Word of God speak, would You pour down like rain  
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty  
to be still and know that You're in this place  
Please let me stay and rest, in Your holiness  
Word of God speak **(repeat)**

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### **Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.*

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly

distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Joel Guttormson**

**Song of the Day: *Blessed Be Your Name***

Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name  
  
Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name  
  
Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say  
  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name  
  
Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be Your name (x2)

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name (x2)

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## **Apostles' Creed**

**ELW p. 206**

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 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.



## Prayers of Intercession

...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**  
...made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

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

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## Offering Song: *Lord I Lift Your Name on High*

**ELW 857**

Lord, I lift your name on high;  
Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life,  
I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Lord, I lift your name on high;  
Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life,  
I'm so glad you came to save us.  
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high.

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## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.  
God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



## **Preparing for the Table**

...So if we come to this table angry,  
**Let this bread and wine be our peace.**

If we come to this table broken,  
**Let this bread and wine be our grace.**

If we come to this table betrayed,  
**Let this bread and wine be our wholeness.**

If we come to this table in despair,  
**Let this bread and wine be our life.**

For this is a holy table, with food to fill the hungry world  
and wine to quench thirsty hearts.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Words of Institution**

... We break bread and share the one cup.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Lord's Prayer**

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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 trespasses,  
    as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
    and lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
    and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## **Invitation to Communion**

## Lamb of God

ELW p. 191

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## Communion Distribution Song: *Come to the Table*

ELW 481

Come to the table of mercy,  
prepared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hungry and thirsty,  
come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's invitation;  
receive from his nail-scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of salvation;  
drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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## Prayer after Communion

ELW p. 155

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## Announcements

## Blessing

Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## ***Sending Song: All the People Said Amen***

You are not alone if you are lonely  
When you feel afraid, you're not the only  
We are all the same, in need of mercy,  
to be forgiven and be free  
It's all you got to lean on, but thank God, it's all you need

### **Refrain**

And all the people said Amen, whoa  
And all the people said Amen  
Give thanks to the Lord,  
for His love never ends  
And all the people said Amen

If you're rich or poor, well it don't matter  
weak or strong, you know love is what we're after  
We're all broken, but we're all in this together  
God knows we stumble and fall  
and He so loved the world He sent His Son to save us all **Refrain**

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart  
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart  
Blessed are the people hungry for another start  
for theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of God **Refrain x2**

And all the people said Amen

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### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## ***Postlude: All the People Said Amen***

## Announcements

### **Worship Online**

#### **Zoom:**

<https://bit.ly/2PvSCQJ>

Meeting ID: 563 582 7371

Passcode: Luther

#### **Phone in at:**

(312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 563 582 7371

Passcode: 456037

**Altar Flowers** today are provided by Sam & Sue Deaver in thanksgiving for blessings.

### **This Week at Lord of Life**

Sunday, September 17	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Sunday School/Confirmation
	10:30 AM	Worship in-person or online

### **Bible Sunday – October 1**

Bibles will be given to 3-year-olds and 3rd graders on Sunday, October 1st during both worship services. If you have a child in these age groups, please let the office know what service you will be attending. There will also be a cross generational event that morning for everyone focused on learning about the Bible. Plan to join us for that at 9:15!

### **Prayer List**

Pat Friedman

Sally Fuller

Steve Geisert

Jim & Bernita Gilbertson

Jessie & Amanda Gillen and family

Tara & Kevin Grace

Phil & Peggy Granovsky



Thank you for your continued support of the ministries of Lord of Life Lutheran Church. Scan the code to reach our website for further information.

## **Worship Servants:**

### **Sunday, September 17**

	<b>Tech</b>	<b>Assisting Min.</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
<b>8:00 am</b>	(PPT only)	Susan Hansen	Kris E. Eipperle	Lois Freiburger
<b>10:30 am</b>	Brandon Johnson	Joan Cram	Barry Pickart	Phil Granovsky

### **Sunday, September 24**

<b>8:00 am</b>	(PPT only)		Sandy Arp	Dan & Joan Decker
<b>10:30 am</b>		Diane Frambach	Steve Geisert	Linda Bothwell

## **Acknowledgments**

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**Lord of Life Lutheran Church**  
**2899 Hales Mill Road**  
**Dubuque, IA 52002**  
(563) 582-7371  
[lordoflife.online](http://lordoflife.online)

**Lord of Life Lutheran Guest Wireless**  
Password: Lutheran

**Pastor**  
Rev. Paul Amlin  
[pastor@lordoflifedbq.org](mailto:pastor@lordoflifedbq.org)

**Administrative Assistant**  
Rita Dienst  
[office@lordoflifedbq.org](mailto:office@lordoflifedbq.org)

**Musician**  
Jill Klinebriel  
[jill@lordoflifedbq.org](mailto:jill@lordoflifedbq.org)

**NOW Worship Leader**  
Bri Ensign  
[bri.ensign@gmail.com](mailto:bri.ensign@gmail.com)

**Choir Director**  
Susan Hansen

**Faith Formation Coordinator**  
Maria Troftgruben

**Administrative Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

