



*Loved by God,
Sent to Serve.*

**17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
HS 1991 Now the Feast and Celebration

GATHERING

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

Prelude: *Softly and Tenderly*

Lisa Hoekstra

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

HS p. 2

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

Amen.

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,

Have mercy on us. We confess to you that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.

With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Refrain/Estribillo

To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,

da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
 to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To - stanzas *Last Verse*
 y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
 let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.

1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
 1 Take my hands and let them move
 2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
 3 Take my voice and let me sing
 4 Take my will and make it thine;

con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
 at the im - pulse of thy love;
 not a mite would I with - hold;
 al - ways, on - ly for my King;
 it shall be no lon - ger mine;

que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
 take my feet and let them be swift and
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
 take my lips and let them be filled with
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

Refrain/Estribillo
 pul - so de tu a - mor,
 beau - ti - ful for thee.
 pow'r as thou shalt choose.
 mes - sag - es from thee.
 be thy roy - al throne.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt. Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955 Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b., 1954 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress Used by permission OneLicense #A-718383

Greeting

HS p. 2

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.

Refrain

Assistant: *Congregation:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,

to Verses

Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant:

Help, save and de - fend us, O

Congregation:

God. A - men.

Now the Feast

HS p. 4

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,

all of cre - a - tion sings for joy

to the God of life and love and

free-dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

er - more!

Verse 1

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God. *to Refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

2. Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *to Refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to
make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *to Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about

the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

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

Psalm 145:1-8 (*spoken responsively*)

¹I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

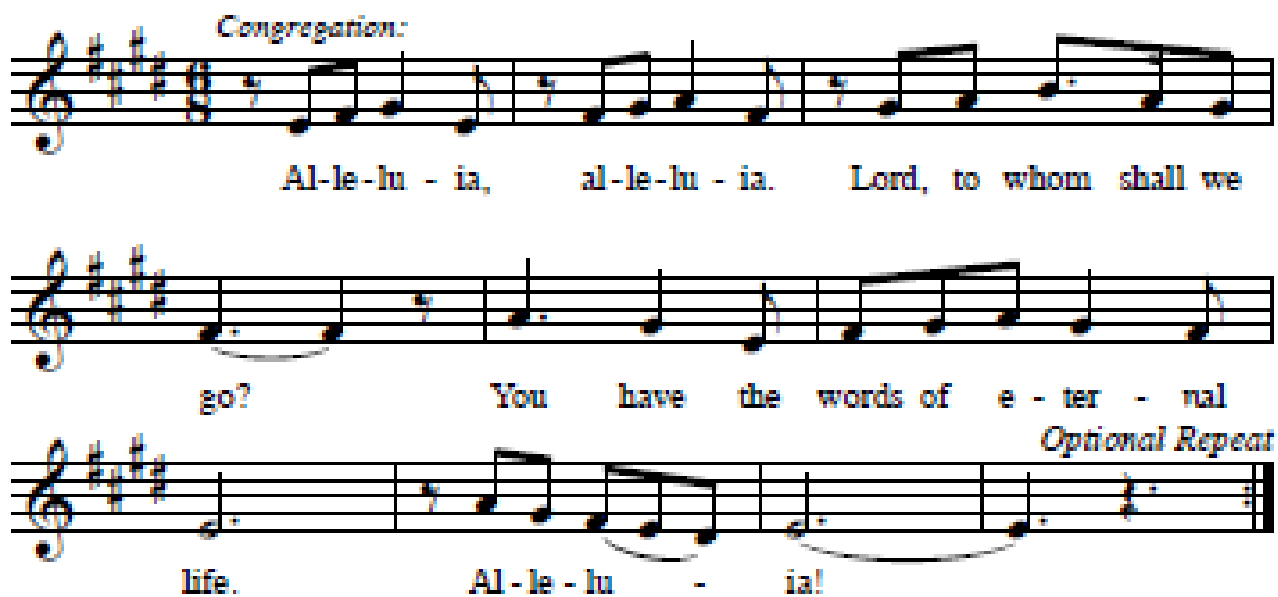
²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

Gospel Verse

HS p. 8

Congregation:



Al-le-hu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - hu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

Children's Time

Sermon

The Rev. Karla Wildberger



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936 Music: Normon Cocker, 1889-1953 Text © 1977 rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
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Apostles' Creed

HS p. 11

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

HS p. 12

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering: *As the Grains of Wheat*

HS p. 12

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Offering Prayer in Unison

HS p. 13

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

HS p. 14

The musical score for the Great Thanksgiving is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The parts are labeled as Presider and Congregation.

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al-so with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Congregation:* It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface

HS p. 14

Congregation:

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!

Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer

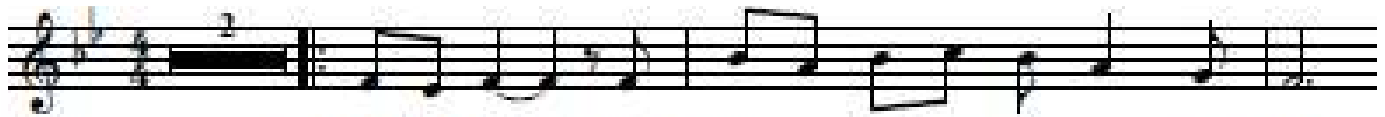
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

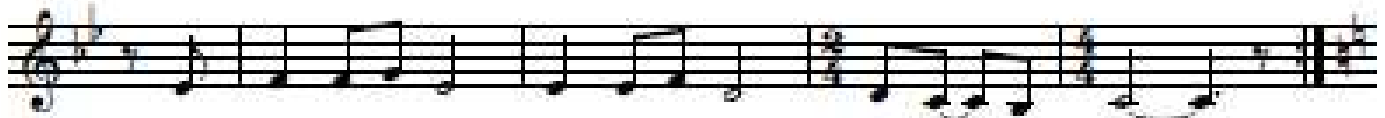
Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God

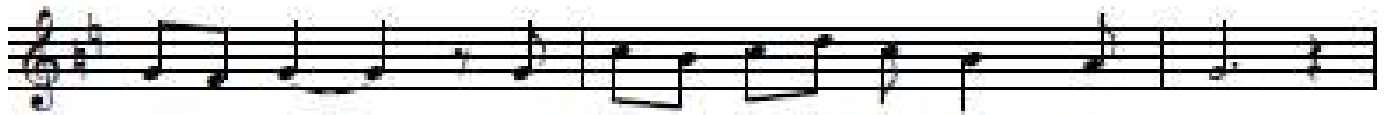
HS p. 18



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace;
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love;



have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: African American spiritual Music: African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress Used by permission OneLicense #A-718383

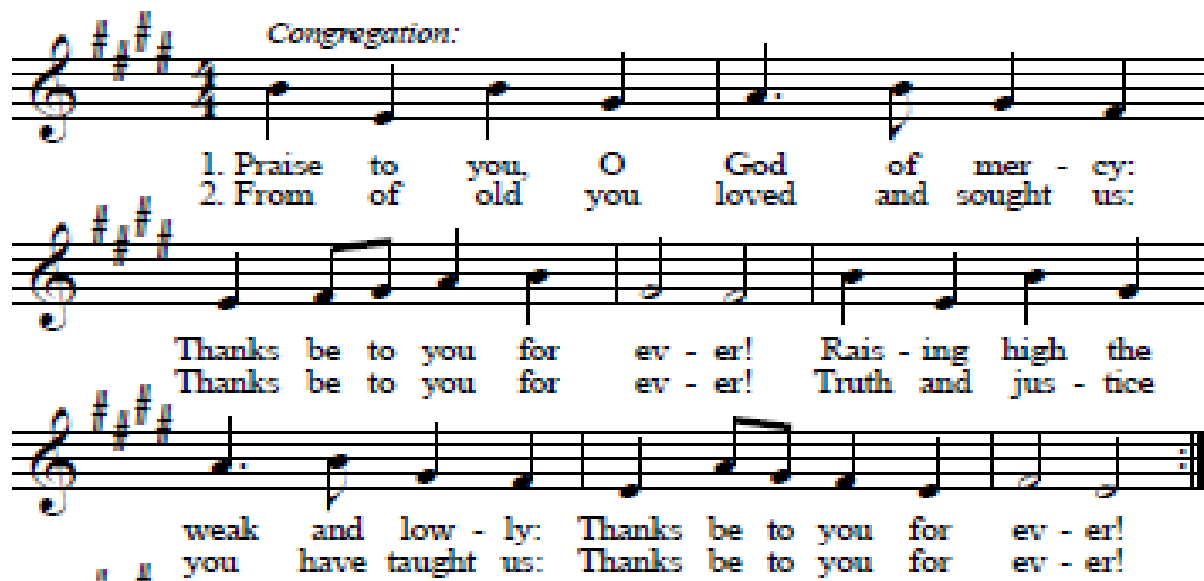
Post-Communion Blessing

HS p. 19

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

Congregation:



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:
 2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the
 Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!
 you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Post-Communion Prayer

HS p. 21

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

Announcements

Blessing

HS p. 21

May God bless and keep us.

May God's face shine on us and be gracious.

May God look on us with favor and ✝ give us peace.

Amen.



1 Voic - es raised to you we of - fer; tune them, God, for
 2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise you; earth and sky your
 3 Christ, the song of love in - car - nate, touch - ing earth with
 4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, kin - dle faith with -
 5 How can an - y praise we of - fer mea - sure all the



songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
 works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts you lend us,
 heav - en's grace, for your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
 in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;
 thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voic - es—



for your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!
 we re - turn to you to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!
 for your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!
 through our hands your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!
 gifts of love we can be - stow. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!
 Al - le - lu - ia! God, cre - a - tor, source of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, re - deem - er, Lord of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, help - er, breath of life!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to you we sing!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923 Music: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc.
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Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

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 Val Kennedy in honor of Morgan's birthday on the 28th.

This Week at Lord of Life

Sunday, September 24	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Ed.
	10:30 AM	Worship in-person or online
Thursday, September 28	11:30 AM	Senior Lunch – Potosi Brewery
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministry

Congregational Survey

Please remember to complete and return a survey for the Call committee to use in completing the Ministry Site Profile. We all have a voice in what pastoral qualities are important to Lord of Life.

Adult Faith Formation Today

Today's topic is forgiveness. Grab a coffee and a treat and join us in the conference room between services for some thoughtful discussion.

CROP Walk

Saturday, October 7 at Eagle Point Park. Registration is at 9:30 am. Support this cause by walking and/or contributing to raise funds for hunger both locally and globally. Sign-up in the Gathering Space.

Roadside Cleanup

Saturday, October 14 at 9:00 am. Help beautify our one-mile stretch of the NW Arterial. This should only take a couple of hours. Many hands make light work! Sign-up in the Gathering Space.

Thank You

My family and I would like to give thanks to Lord of Life for hosting my brothers wake and memorial service. To Pastor Mark Oehlert for the wonderful service and eulogy. A big thank you to the "Church Basement Ladies" for serving the funeral dinner and the clean up afterwards. Last but not least a big thank you to Rita Dienst for all she did to make that day so wonderful, and on her day off. I am proud to be a member of Lord of Life ! I am continually amazed at the members of our church who spread the Word of God by sharing, caring and taking care of each other. Thank you and God Bless! Sam and Sue Deaver

Prayer List

Grayden Grimm
Rose Guler-Ludowitz
Jim & Molly Hall and family
Susan & Kurt Hansen
Linda Hanson
Steve & Sandy Heer
Roni Heil

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 24

	Tech	Assisting Min.	Reader	Ushers
8:00 am	(PPT only)		Sandy Arp	Dan & Joan Decker
10:30 am		Diane Frambach	Steve Geisert	Linda Bothwell

Sunday, October 1

8:00 am	(PPT only)		Sandy Heer	Jim & Bernita Gilbertson
10:30 am			Barb Lindecker	Tim Shade

Acknowledgments

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NOW Worship Leader
Bri Ensign
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Choir Director
Susan Hansen

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

