

**Welcome to Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church  
April 23rd, 2023  
Third Sunday of Easter**



*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.*

**Welcome:** Welcome to Lord of Life Lutheran Church. This is a safe space to bring your whole self. If there are ways we can make participation in worship easier for you, we will do our best to accommodate.

**Worship: Masks:** DuPage County community level is **Low**. Since we are at the low level, masks are optional in our building.

**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.

**For those worshipping from home:** Find a peaceful place to pray, perhaps a table. You will need your communion packet, this service folder, and if your phone is convenient, you can use it to pass the peace. Lighting a candle hallows your worship place. We distribute packets of pre-consecrated bread and wine (gluten free option is available) for those who call the church office. We are here for you!

**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***

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*The assembly stands as they are able.*

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

***Amen.***

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,  
holy and merciful,  
holy and mighty,  
you are the river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.  
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,  
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.**

**Empower our witness to your resurrection.**

**Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ,

who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**Let Us Break Bread Together**

**ELW 471**



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;  
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.  
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.  
let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Assembly is seated*

***YOUNG AT HEART SERMON***

***Pastor Adam Dowd***

**First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

<sup>14a</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], <sup>36</sup>“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” <sup>40</sup>And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup>So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

<sup>1</sup>I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,  
and listened to my supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>**for the LORD has given ear to me  
whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup>The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup>**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:**

**“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

<sup>12</sup>How shall I repay the LORD

for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup of salvation**

**and call on the name of the LORD.**

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD

in the presence of all God’s people.

<sup>15</sup>**Precious in your sight, O LORD,**

**is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving**

**and call upon the name of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows to the LORD

in the presence of all God’s people,

<sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the LORD’s house,**

**in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup>He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***

*The assembly stands as they are able.*

*Alleluia.* Our hearts burn within us

**while you open to us the scriptures. *Alleluia.* (Luke 24:32)**

### ***THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:13-35***

The holy scriptures according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each other about all these

things that had happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup>Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” <sup>19</sup>He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup>and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup>But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup>and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup>As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” <sup>33</sup>That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup>They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to



Simon!”<sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

*All are seated.*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Adam Dowd*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Take My Hand*

**Shawn McDonald**

*Response to the Word*

*The assembly stands as they are able.*

**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***

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *(a brief silence)*

Ever-present God, you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread and in the bonds of community. Reveal yourself to us in the faces of all we meet. Strengthened by your body and blood, let us boldly live out your good news. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

As we know you in the breaking of the bread, we know you in the grains of the field and the flowing waters. Care for the earth you lovingly create. Strengthen those who safeguard threatened land and water. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You are the authority to whom we dedicate our lives. Help us keep the needs of those most vulnerable at the forefront of our community. Move us to care for any who are disregarded or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Mothering God, you feed and comfort those who hunger. Open the hearts of those who hoard resources and lead them to share your abundance. We

pray for anyone hungering for your comforting presence this day especially for Paul, Toni, Ken, Kerry, Jim, Caryl, Gale, Don, Ron, Nancy and Cor. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You pour out your love on those who are oppressed. Support and comfort anyone who is marginalized by gender or sexuality and those whose stories are not believed. Form this community to listen faithfully and speak honestly in our ministry together. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We remember with thanksgiving all your beloved saints. As you have raised them to eternal life, abide with us in your promise of resurrection. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**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 worshipping alone.*

## ***OFFERING AND PRAYER***

### ***Offering Reflection***

*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



bles-sing. 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.

Generous God,  
in this meal you offer your very self.  
We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.  
In the breaking of this bread  
reveal to us the Risen One.  
In the pouring of this wine  
pour us out in service to the world;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## *Meal*

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*The assembly stands as they are able.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*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 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***

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

### ***COMMUNION***

*All are seated. As we sing As We Gather at Your Table, please take time to prepare yourselves and your communion elements.*

**SONG DURING COMMUNION** *As We Gather at Your Table*

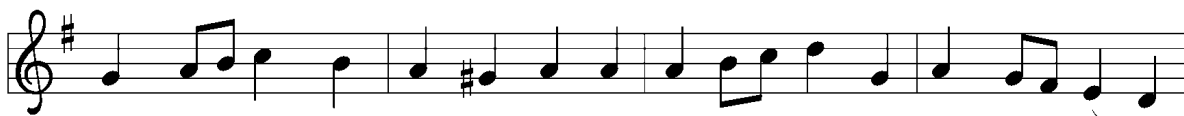
**ELW 522**



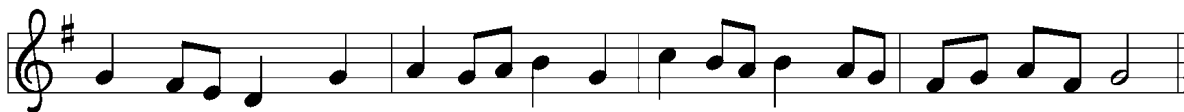
1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - umphant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Gracious God,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

# *Sending*

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## **BLESSING**

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

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**

### *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

*ELW 674*



- 1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
- 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
- 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

#### *Refrain*



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.  
**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:

<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Adam Dowd
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Ron Matta
<b>Lector</b>	Art Kardatzke
<b>Guitarist</b>	Christopher Vincent and Pastor Adam Dowd
<b>Instrumental</b>	Gale Dyskie and Steve Foltin
<b>Greeters</b>	Judy Padera
<b>Ushers</b>	Debbie McNichols and Marilynn Sells
<b>Acolyte</b>	Judy Padera
<b>Video</b>	Sherry Sejnost

Announcements – 4-23-2023

This month the **Wine and Candles** are provided by **Marilynn Sells**.

**Lunch Bunch** We will meet at 3 Corners, 7231 Lemont Road Downers Grove, on **Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 AM**. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Sue Tomasek at 773-758-3161.

**Adopt a Plot** Do you have a green thumb? Would you like to help make the landscaping at Lord of Life beautiful? Come to the Adopt a Plot meeting **today at 11 AM** and see how you can help. If you have questions, please call Arlene at 630 918-7890 or Judy Padera 630-235-2195.

**Spreading Mulch** Boy Scouts are willing to help us spread mulch on **Saturday, May 13 in the morning**. Come out and join them.

**Donations** - Please continue to support LoL with your generous contributions, either via the online donations, USPS or by putting them in the drop box outside the west entry. Thank you to everyone who have been coming out to do this. To access the secure electronic donations, go to our website at <http://www.lordoflifedarien.com/> and click on the "Give" tab on the top right. With your help we will be able to continue to serve you and the community "*Sharing God's Love*."

**Please pray for members:**

Paul Ristau	Toni Blesy	Jim Eckwall
Cor Peterson	Caryl Schaer	Gale Dyskie
Don Dibbern	Ron Matta	Nancy Swanson
Kerry Spitznagle	Ken Gulliford	

A full list of relatives, friends and military personnel for whom we pray is emailed weekly on Friday. A list will also be printed in the bulletin the first Sunday of the month.

**Last Week's Giving** – \$2701.00

**Electronic Donation for the month of March** - \$912.52

## THIS WEEK AT LORD OF LIFE

Sunday	4/23	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship (Live Streaming)</b>
		<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>
		<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Adopt a Plot Meeting</b>
		2:00 PM	Loving Word Worship
Tuesday	4/25	5:15 PM	Overeaters Anonymous
Wednesday	4/26	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
		7:00 PM	One Day at a Time (AA)
Friday	4/28	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Cards</b>
Saturday	4/29	9:00 AM	Seventh Day Adventist
Sunday	4/30	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Worship (Live Streaming)</b>
		<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>
		2:00 PM	Loving Word Worship