

**Welcome to Lord of Life
Lutheran Church
August 3, 2025
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**



Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

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 What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine ELW 774

- 1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

Leaning, leaning, (*Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus,*)
safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, (*leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus,*)
leaning on the everlasting arms.

- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

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

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

All are seated

Word

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom

and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, all you peoples;

give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own
prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they
perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places
from generation to generation,

though they had named lands after themselves.

¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

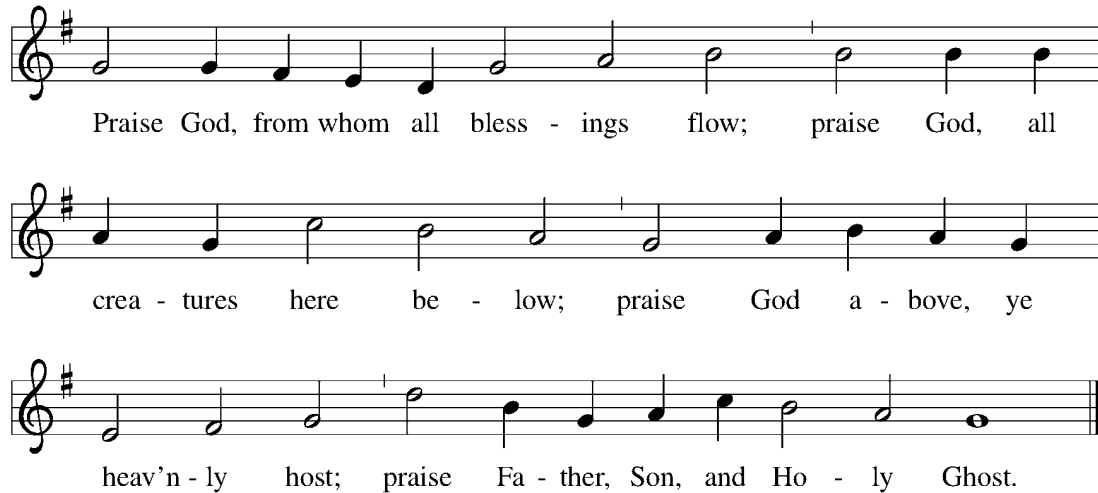
⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands as they are comfortable



Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.** *Alleluia.* (Matt. 5:3)

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:13-21

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

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose

will they be?’²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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

All are seated
SERMON

Pastor Adam Dowd

HYMN OF THE DAY *Hillbilly Hymn (Okra and Cigarettes)*
Nathan Evans Fox

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.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear especially for Aimee, Donna, Elaine, Marla, Ken, Vernetta, Roberta, Judy, Linda, Paul, Toni, Kerry, Jim, Caryl, Gale, and Cor. Give strength to those who

give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace,
Your mercy is great.

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. 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

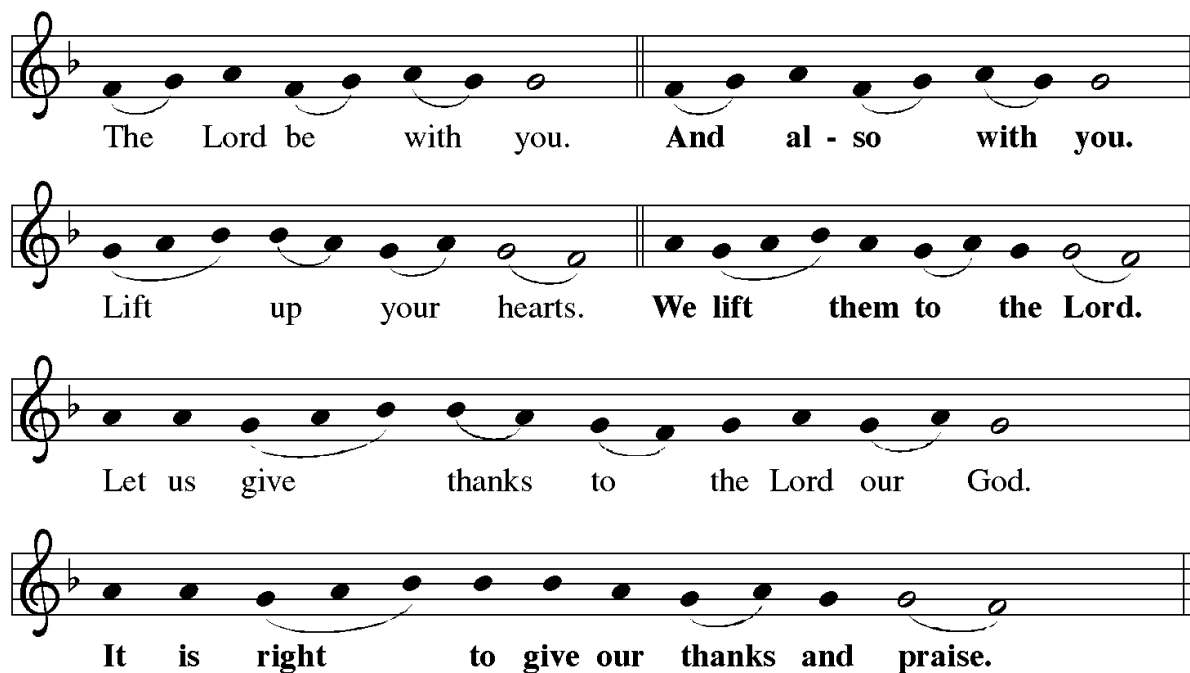
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble

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

Lead Me Guide Me

ELW 768

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way
For if you lead me I cannot not stray
Lord let me walk, each day with thee
Lead me oh lord lead me

- 1 I am weak and I need thy strength and power
to help me over my weakest hour
Help me through the darkness thy face to see
Lead me oh lord lead me (Refrain)
- 2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness.
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in thee:
Lead me, oh lord lead me (Refrain)
- 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy light to see.
Lord just always let me thy servant be,
Lead me, oh lord lead me (Refrain)

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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Eucharistic Prayer- Nathan Nettleton, used with permission

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

Ron Matta

Lector

Alex Kerfin

Organist

Rosita Yao

Guitarist

Christopher Vincent and Pastor Adam Dowd

Greeters

Connie Allekian

Ushers

Marilynn Sells and Debbie McNichols

Acolyte

Alice Tangorra

Video

Alex Kerfin and Sherry Sejnost

Announcements 8-3-2025

Flowers today are in celebration of **Art and Janet Kardatzke's Wedding Anniversary**.

Wine and Candles this month is provided by **Connie Allekian** in memory of her husband **Harvey**.

Bible Study There will be no bible study on **July 30th** and **August 6th**.

Fire Pit Worship Pastor Carol invites us to join CLC for Fire pit worship and fellowship time on **Wednesday, August 6 @ 6:00 pm**. Food and S'mores will be provided, you may bring your own beverage if you would like anything other than water which will be offered as well.

Darien Fest is Coming Once again LoL will host a booth at Darien Fest on **August 9th and 10th**. Last year's event was a great success with lots of kids anxiously waiting in line for Pastor Adam's face-painting skills. To make this year's FEST as successful as last year's, volunteers are needed to man the FEST booth. So, take the challenge and sign up to man the booth. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

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 **Wednesday, August 20th 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.

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 – \$6666.00

Electronic Donation for the month of July- \$733.82

THIS WEEK AT LORD OF LIFE

Sunday	8/3	10:00 AM	Worship
		12:00 PM	Loving Word
Tuesday	8/5	5:00 PM	Overeaters Anonymous
Wednesday	8/6	7:00 PM	One Day at a Time
Thursday	8/7	5:00 PM	Dance Academy
Friday	8/8	9:30 AM	Cards
Saturday	8/9	9:00 AM	SDA
		12:00 PM	Darien Fest
		12:30 PM	SDA Luncheon
Sunday	8/10	10:00 AM	Worship
		12:00 PM	Loving Word