

Lord of *Life* Lutheran Church

119 West Wise Road + Schaumburg, IL  
847-895-8877 + [WWW.LORD-OF-LIFE.ORG](http://WWW.LORD-OF-LIFE.ORG)

# TRUSTING WHEN THE ROAD IS UNCLEAR

John 9:1-41

4th Sunday in Lent  
March 15, 2026  
9:00 a.m.

# Welcome to Lord of Life Lutheran Church

## Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word in worship in-person and online. We encourage you to follow along in this document. If you are joining us online, please send the office an email at [LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org](mailto:LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org) so we know of your participation.

May the Lord bless our worship this day.

## As We Gather

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

## As We Offer

We offer our contributions in-person or online at [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) through this link [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1438924](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1438924) or with your phone by taking a picture of this QR Code.



# + Gathering +

PRELUDE ~ *O the Deep, Deep, Love of Jesus*

Larry Shackley

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand.*

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. Gracious God,

**C** **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

**C** **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

**C** **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**C** **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C** **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C** have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

**P** For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C** have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

**P** God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of  $\dagger$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**C** Amen.

## GATHERING HYMN ~ *O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate* ELW 722



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.  
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,  
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,  
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.  
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.  
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.  
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme  
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,  
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield  
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



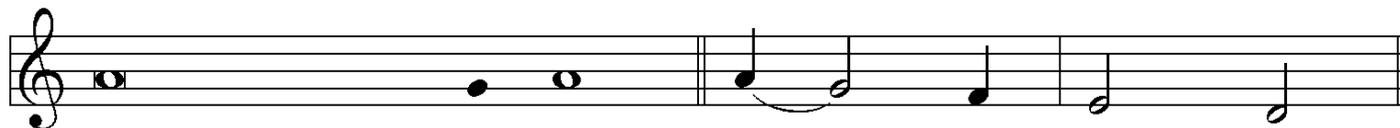
to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.  
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.  
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.  
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

## GREETING

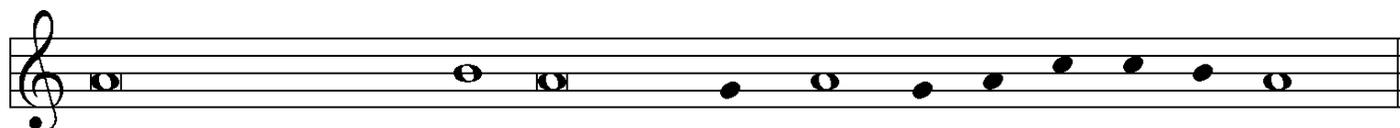
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## KYRIE



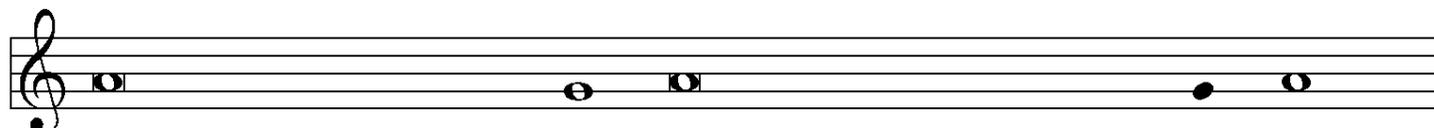
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



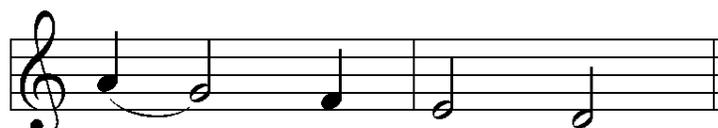
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



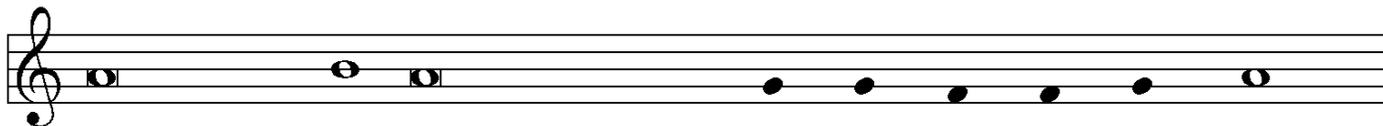
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Children continue their worship in Sunday School.*

+ Word +

*We sit.*

## FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13

**A** A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel.

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have

provided for myself a king among his sons.”<sup>2</sup> Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’

<sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”<sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”<sup>5</sup> He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.”<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before

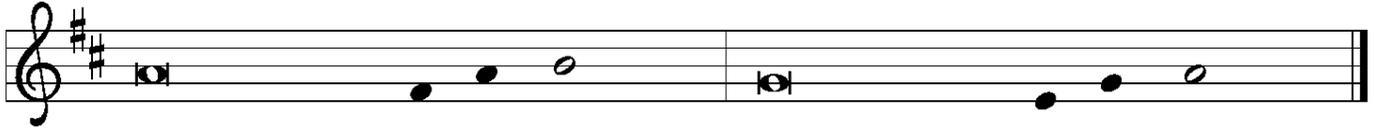
Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”

<sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”<sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 23



**A** <sup>1</sup>The LORD | is my shepherd;  
I shall not | be in want.

**C** <sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.

**A** <sup>3</sup>You restore my | soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

**C** <sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall | fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,  
they | comfort me.

**A** <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**C** <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the  
days | of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

## SECOND LESSON

**Ephesians 5:8-14**

**A** A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>8</sup> Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup> Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose

them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, <sup>13</sup> but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

**A** The word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*We stand.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**G** Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

**P** The holy gospel according to John.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam”

(which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup> He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup> They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” <sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” <sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight <sup>19</sup> and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup> but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” <sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We

know that this man is a sinner.”<sup>25</sup> He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”<sup>26</sup> They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”<sup>27</sup> He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.”<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”<sup>30</sup> The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes.<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.<sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”<sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”<sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”<sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.”<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

*We sit.*

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY ~ *Dearest Jesus, at Your Word*

ELW 520



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est  
3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from  
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,  
God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;  
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:



and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -  
fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and  
help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and  
all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on



es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.  
all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.  
songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.  
earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

*We stand.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**A** Let us confess the faith of the church with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C** 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

**A** Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*Each petition ends:*

**A** Hear us, O God.

**C** Your mercy is great.

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**C** Amen.

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

# + Meal +

*We sit.*

**OFFERTORY ~ CHOIR** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*, Frederick Frahm

**OFFERING SONG ~** *On My Heart Imprint Your Image*

**ELW 811**



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



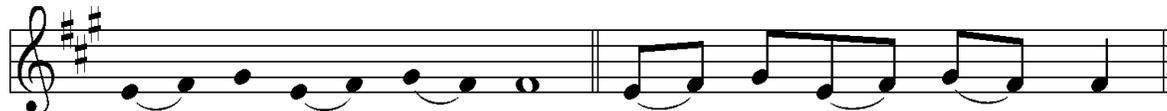
is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, all my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C** Amen.

## DIALOGUE



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

**P** It is indeed right and salutary...praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

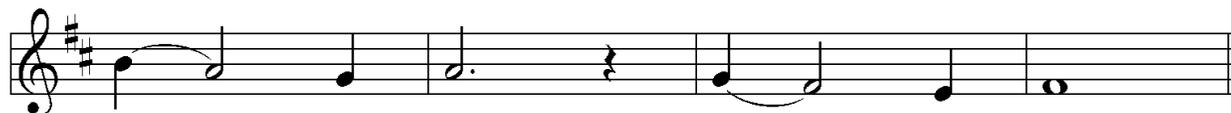




Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are welcome to the table of the Lord who is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine. We gather at the communion rail and consume the elements by intinction, taking the wafer and dipping it into the chalice of wine. Half of the chalice is dark wine and the other half is white apple juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request during distribution. Children who have yet to commune are welcome to receive a blessing. Please inform the ushers if you will need to partake of the Lord's supper at your place in the pew.*

## COMMUNION HYMN ~ *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* ELW 803



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.



# SENDING HYMN ~ *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death*

ELW 452



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,  
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Believe the good news

**G** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE ~ *Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*

Larry Shackley

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✠ LEADING WORSHIP TODAY ✠

Pastor Rebekah Weant, Presiding Minister  
Diane Bele, Music Director  
, Audio Visual  
Jenny Tuntland, Assisting Minister  
Trisha Steimel, Reader  
Cynthia Berntzen, Greeter  
Taylor Johnson & Jim Heinking, Ushers

**THE FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by members and friends of Lord of Life

**THE BULLETIN** is given to the glory of God by members and friends of Lord of Life

**WORSHIP REGISTRATION SHEETS** ~ All visitors & members please sign-in each Sunday on the worship attendance sheets located in the blue folder at the end of your pew. Please update any new contact information. We encourage visitors to provide contact information - - this helps us to get to know you!

**\*\*Please continue to sign-in each week.** This helps gauge church growth, plan events, maintain how many bulletins should be printed, and assist in setting up the communion meal for each week. Trying a new seat will also help you say hello to those who you do not know each week. Thank you for your assistance with this.\*\*

**WELCOME** ~ IF YOU WATCH ON-LINE, PLEASE EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE DIRECTLY AT [LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org](mailto:LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org) or call the office and let us know you attended. Thank you!

Please see the new “Lifeline” that will be an insert in each Sunday’s bulletin with upcoming events and news you can use – if you would like to add

**something to this, please send in to church office by Mondays to get into the next week's bulletin. It will be approved and then formatted to fit.**