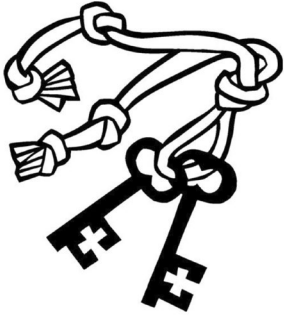


**Welcome to Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church  
August 23, 2026  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



*In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.*

**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 kid's 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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#### **Land Acknowledgement**

We, the congregation of Lord of Life Lutheran Church acknowledge and honor the Peoria, Bodwéwadmí (Potawatomi), Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówin, Kaskaskia, and Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo) peoples, upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship this morning, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place - this land - and call it their home.

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

*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,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,  
**we confess to you all our sins.**  
**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**  
**In your mercy, call us back to you.**  
**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**  
**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**  
**In Christ's name we pray,**  
**Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest.”  
In the name of God,  
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.  
Rest in God’s love.  
**Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN    The Church's One Foundation    ELW 654***

- 1    The church's one foundation  
      is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
      she is his new creation  
      by water and the word.  
      From heav'n he came and sought her  
      to be his holy bride;  
      with his own blood he bought her,  
      and for her life he died.
  
- 2    Elect from ev'ry nation,  
      yet one o'er all the earth,  
      her charter of salvation  
      one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
      one holy name she blesses,  
      partakes one holy food,  
      and to one hope she presses,  
      with ev'ry grace endued.
  
- 3    Though with a scornful wonder  
      this world sees her oppressed,  
      by schisms rent asunder,  
      by heresies distressed,  
      yet saints their watch are keeping;  
      their cry goes up: "How long?"  
      And soon the night of weeping

shall be the morn of song.

4 Through toil and tribulation  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union  
with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us,  
may see you face to face.

## ***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***

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you,  
the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the  
body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*All are seated*

**Word**

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**First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6**

*Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.*

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
<sup>2</sup> Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah, who bore you,  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.  
<sup>3</sup> For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup> Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation,  
for a teaching will go out from me  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
<sup>5</sup> I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;  
my salvation has gone out,  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.  
<sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens

and look at the earth beneath,  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats,  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

### **Psalm: Psalm 138**

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup> **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your  
name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all  
things.**

<sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

<sup>4</sup> **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your  
right hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup> **You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not  
abandon the works of your hands.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8**

*In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.*

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

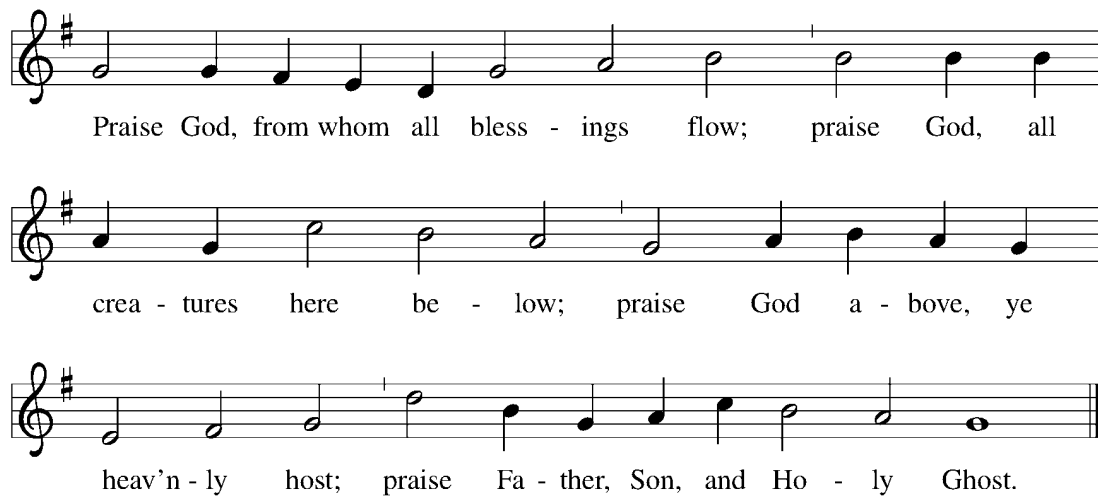
<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*The assembly stands as they are comfortable*



*Alleluia.* You are the Messiah, **the Son of the living God.**

*Alleluia.* (Matt. 16:16)

### ***THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 16:13-20***

The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All are seated.*

**SERMON**

***Pastor Adam Dowd***

***HYMN OF THE DAY    Just A Closer Walk With Thee    Alabama***

***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***

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day especially for Margie,

Nancy, Linda, Lee Ann, Jenna, Art, Vernetta, Roberta, Judy, Linda, Paul, Toni, Kerry, Jim, Caryl, and Gale. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our 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 worshiping alones*

### ***OFFERING AND PRAYER***

*The offering plate is brought forward as a sign of the good gifts, ourselves included, God has given us.*

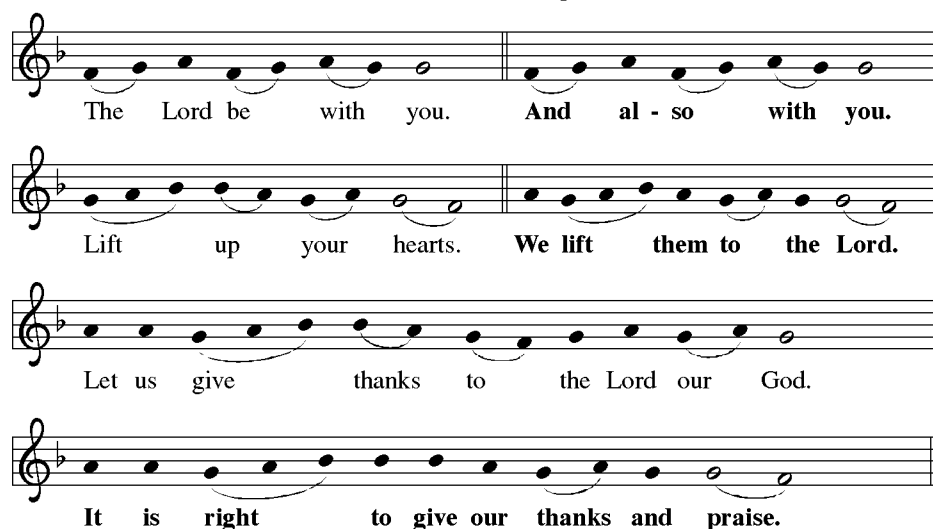
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Loving God,  
 we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
 Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
 so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
 We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
 through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## *Meal*

---

*The assembly stands as they are comfortable.*



### ***PREFACE AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER...***

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## ***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE***

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and  
ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### ***LORD'S PRAYER***

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us "*SING*" the prayer 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***

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

### ***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***

Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## ***Sending***

---

### ***BLESSING***

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
one God,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

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***

### ***O Savior, Precious Savior***

***ELW 820***

- 1 O Savior, precious Savior,  
whom yet unseen we love;  
O name of might and favor,  
all other names above:  
we worship thee; we bless thee;  
to thee alone we sing;  
we praise thee and confess thee,  
our holy Lord and King.
- 2 O bringer of salvation,  
who wondrously hast wrought,  
thyself the revelation  
of love beyond our thought:  
we worship thee; we bless thee;  
to thee alone we sing;

we praise thee and confess thee,  
our gracious Lord and King.

- 3 In thee all fullness dwelleth,  
all grace and pow'r divine;  
the glory that excelleth,  
O Son of God, is thine.  
We worship thee; we bless thee;  
to thee alone we sing;  
we praise thee and confess thee,  
our glorious Lord and King.
- 4 Oh, grant the consummation  
of this our song above,  
in endless adoration  
and everlasting love;  
then shall we praise and bless thee  
where perfect praises ring,  
and evermore confess thee,  
our Savior and our King!

## ***DISMISSAL***

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!  
**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:

**Presiding Minister**

**Assisting Minister**

Lector

Pianist

Guitarist

Greeters

Ushers

Acolyte

Video

Pastor Adam Dowd

Kellie Kerfin

Alex Kerfin

Nick Tangorra

Christopher Vincent and Pastor Adam Dowd

Bruce Danielson

Marilynn Sells and Debbie McNichols

Judy Padera

Roberta Sejnost and Arlene Danielson

## **Announcements**

**8-23-2026**

**Wine and Candles** this month are provided by **Mark Alterson and Byron Levan** in celebration of their **22nd anniversary**.

**Rummage Sale** - Friday and Saturday, Sept 11th and 12th - Time: 8:00 – 2:00

**Donations needed:** Clothing, shoes, coats, purses, jewelry, household items, small electrical appliances, tools, holiday decorations, Knick knacks, books, toys, sports goods, and games. And baked goods for the bake sale.

**Donation Drop off Times:** Drop off rummage sales items at LOL before /after services starting August 16. Drop off Baked Goods Thursday, Sept 10 in the afternoon.

**Volunteers needed:** See sign-up sheet in Narthex.

**Extra items needed:** Need clothing racks, hangers, boxes, and plastic bags for sale.

**PRESALE ALL MEMBERS OF LORD OF LIFE AND LOVING WORD CAN PARTICIPATE IN PRESALES ON SUNDAY, SEPT 6 STARTING AT 11 AM.**

**Lunch Bunch** We will meet at Public Landing, 800 West 8th Street, Lockport on **Tuesday, September 8th at 11:30 AM**. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Marilyn Sells at 630-927-9996. Please plan to pay with cash, as cash is preferred by the restaurant.

### **THIS WEEK AT LORD OF LIFE**

|           |      |                 |                            |
|-----------|------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Sunday    | 8/23 | <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>Worship</b>             |
|           |      | 12:00 PM        | Loving Word                |
| Tuesday   | 8/25 | <b>1:00 PM</b>  | <b>Hymn Pick Committee</b> |
|           |      | 5:00 PM         | Overeaters Anonymous       |
|           |      | <b>7:00 PM</b>  | <b>Church Council</b>      |
| Wednesday | 8/26 | <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>Bible Study</b>         |
|           |      | 7:00 PM         | One Day at a Time          |
| Friday    | 8/28 | <b>9:30 AM</b>  | <b>Cards</b>               |
| Saturday  | 8/29 | 9:00 AM         | SDA                        |
| Sunday    | 8/30 | <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>Worship</b>             |
|           |      | 12:00 PM        | Loving Word                |

### **Lord of Life Lutheran Church**

**Pastor Adam Dowd**      [lolpastoradam@gmail.com](mailto:lolpastoradam@gmail.com)  
cell: (952) 465-4300

725 75<sup>th</sup> St., Darien IL 60561      e-mail: [LordLifeSec@gmail.com](mailto:LordLifeSec@gmail.com)  
630-323-3161      web: [LordofLifeDarien.org](http://LordofLifeDarien.org)

Please call the church office first if you need something.

