Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 32
Sunday, November 8, 2026: 9:00 am
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND
Pastors John Streccius and Beth Walch
Our Purpose Statement: "Love All, Serve All, Welcome All as Christ."

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk – Leading Together: Inspiring and Growing New Leadership
Amy Miller

Gathering Hymn: "Come, Let Us Worship God"

Confession/Absolution

" Be Merciful, O God", p. 35

Greeting

Prayer of the Day
The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Let us pray. . . .O God of justice and love, **you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have
died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe
that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who
have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive,
who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.
16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the
sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them
to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore
encourage one another with these words.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 70

[1] Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.
O Lord, make haste to help me!
[2] Let those be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life.
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.
[3] Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!"
turn back because of their shame.
[4] Let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
[5] But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

Word: "From the Fullness of God"

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[1]"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' [10] And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. [11] Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' [13] Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Word: "From the Fullness of God"

Children's Message

Sermon: Pastor John Streccius

Hymn of the Day: ACS #949, "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"

Apostles' Creed, p. 105

Prayers of Intercession, p. 143
At the conclusion of each petition, the minister and ***the congregation*** *will say: "Lord in your mercy:* ***hear our prayer."***

Sharing of the Peace, p. 143 ***(John 20:19)***
We greet one another with the words, "Peace be with you."

Offering
"What Have We to Offer"

Offering Prayer
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.**

"Come, Bring Them to the Table"
The Great Thanksgiving
"Holy, Holy"
"Come and Dine at the Table" *(Words of Institution)*
Lord's Prayer

Distribution:
"Christ Have Mercy On Us All"
"Lamb of God, Come Take Away"

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer
Let us pray. 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.

Benediction
The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Let Us Enter In"

Dismissal
Go in peace.
To love all, serve all and welcome all as Christ.

Worship Participants: Pastors: John Streccius & Beth Walch; **Assisting:** Michelle Schwab; **Communion Assistants:** Diane Clinton; **Ushers:** HELP NEEDED; **Acolyte:** HELP NEEDED; **Song Leader:** McKaela Halvorson; **Accompanist:** David Larson; **November Altar Guild:** Patty Wanner, Arlyce Malarkey, Stephanie Swenson, Deb Honeyman; **Power Point/Live Streaming:** HELP NEEDED

Prayers at Lord of Life: Shirley O'Brien, Coralyn Hoovestol, Scott Berry, Nathan Berndt, Brad Kjos, Judy Sickler, Arlyn Price, Linda Buller, Vicky Baukol, Paula Brosseau, Michelle Ellefson, Ken Snyder, Jonathan Blazek, Cathy Bryant, Mason Chepulis, Lydia Streccius, Doreen Kadrmas, Cindy Kraft, Kathy Gappert, Kim McCullough.

Flowers are given today by: Beth Walch in celebration of her granddaughter Harper's 3rd birthday.

Stewardship Info: Attendance – **Sun**. (11-1): 446 **Wed.** (11-4): 70
Offering: General Plate Giving: $8,078.75 General Online Giving: $3,755.10
September Ministry Spending: $65,195.15 **September Giving:** $52,468.56
Annual Ministry Spending through September: $628,918.00
Annual Giving through September: $571,001.66

November Service Group Leaders: Betty & Dennis Steele (471-6606)
Linda & Jim Boyd (220-0737)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with "Kar" through "Kur"

Worship Helps: Large print bulletins, a wheelchair and a walker, and personal **p.a. devices** are available from the ushers'. **Activity bags and bulletins** for children are available in the narthex.

Sign up to assist with worship! We invite you to prayerfully consider serving in one of the following roles: acolyte, communion assistant, greeter, usher, live stream, or PowerPoint. Visit the QR code or the computer in the Narthex to sign up.

Today we will serve Holy Communion in worship. Those who come to receive the gifts of Christ's body and blood for the strengthening of their faith and the forgiveness of their sins are welcome to eat and drink. Children are welcome to receive Holy Communion at any age. Please have them extend their hand to receive the elements, if not we will offer a blessing. Taste and see that the Lord is good!

For Communion: Grape juice is always available. Simply select the light colored liquid. Gluten free communion wafers are available, indicate gluten free to the server when you come to the communion station.

Thank you for your financial offerings to the ministry of Lord of Life. Electronic giving is quick and easy, just scan the QR code and you will be taken to the secure church website for giving.



Altar Bouquet Donations: Thank you for your donations to date. The 2026 sign up is full. Please watch for 2027 soon. Cost is $25.00/bouquet. The sign-up sheet is located at the Information Desk. **Please note Altar Flowers on check memo line.

Looking for a fun activity for all ages? Join the lefse crew on Saturday, November 21, beginning at 9 am. No experience needed! Lunch will be provided by a Thrivent Action Grant and we get to eat the flops! Lefse will be available for sale on Sunday, Nov. 22 after worship. Proceeds go to the Congregational Care and Outreach team.

This holiday season, the Congregational Care & Outreach Team (CCO) invites you to share the joy of Christmas by donating $10 gift cards appropriate for middle school children who are experiencing financial hardship. A simple gift can bring a smile, offer encouragement, and help a child feel remembered and valued during the holidays. Please donate your cards between November 15 and December 13.

Join us for YAHs on Monday, November 9th, at 11:30 am for a program by Megan Dooley, Innovative Health, on the services to accommodate one's ability to maintain independence in your own home as long as possible. Lunch of scalloped potatoes and ham, coleslaw and bars.

Adult Forums Sundays at 10:15 am: November 8 – The Book of Mark, Stephanie Hickman. November 15 – Suicide Prevention Coalition. November 22 – Jordan Nygard, Asset Giving.

Life is Change Grief Support Group: Join us on the first Sunday of each month at 5:00 pm. These monthly gatherings are open to anyone navigating grief or significant life changes. **Please note we will no longer be meeting on the third Sunday of each month.**

We're excited to announce that a Lord of Life apparel store will be open through Pure Country from October 25 through November 8! This is your chance to order Lord of Life branded clothing and show your church spirit wherever you go! To order, use the link lordoflife2026.itemorder.com or scan the QR code on the fliers around the church.

A chance to give! Shiela Mugaas is collecting NEW medium sized teddy bears for law enforcement to give to children affected by trauma. A pack-n-play will be set up in the narthex until Thanksgiving. Thank you for your help!

DEADLINE THIS WEEK FOR THE ENDOWMENT FUND! Gifts of any size help the Lord of Life Endowment Fund grow and generate income to support the church's mission. Annual grants may fund projects beyond Lord of Life but must be sponsored by a church member. Applications for 2027 grants are now available in the church office and at lordoflifebismarck.org under Serve & Give. Applications must be submitted to the church office by November 10, 2026.

Happening this week at Lord of Life
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-3:00 pm
Church Office: 701-223-2986
www.lordoflifebismarck.org

Sun., November 8
9:00 am: Worship
10:15 am: Church School
10:15 am: Adult Forum
10:15 am: Young Adult Bible Study
2:00 pm: Girl Scouts
3:00 pm: Meeting in back classroom

Mon., November 9
LOL @ Heaven's Helpers
11:30 am: YAH's

Tue., November 10
9:30 am: Women's Bible Study
10:30 am: Staff Meeting
4:00 pm: Executive Team Meeting
6:00 pm: Snacks & Scripture
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wed., November 11
3:30 pm: Plarning
5:00 pm: Family Meal
6:15 pm: Worship
7:00 pm: Church School & Confirmation

Thurs., November 12
Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm
8:30 am: Centering Prayer
9:30 am: Brunch with Beth
10:45 am: Book Study

Fri., November 13
Beautiful Girls Camp @ Springbrook
9:30 am: Coffee with Caregivers

Sun., November 15
Appeal Sunday
9:00 am: Worship – Youth Led
10:15 am: Church School
10:15 am: Adult Forum
10:15 am: Young Adult Bible Study

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