



Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 28

Sunday, October 11, 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.”

Today's order of service is taken from With One Voice, Setting 5, pp. 28-41, at the front of the hymnal. The hymns are found at the back of Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and All Creation Sings (ACS).

***Bold type** = **Congregation**; Light type = Presiding/Assisting Minister*

Welcome and Announcements

Moment of Silence

Confession and Forgiveness, p. 10

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Elliot John Waldie, son of Trevor and Kenady Waldie. Baptismal sponsors are Cierra Philbrick and Spencer Suko.

At the conclusion of the baptism, the pastor and congregation will say:

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Opening Hymn: ELW #453, “Baptized and Set Free”

Greeting and Kyrie, p. 28 (Psalms 4:1 6:2, 9:13, 25:16, 27:7, 30:10, 31:9, 51:1, 86:16, 123:3)

Hymn of Praise, pp. 29-30, “Glory to God” (Revelation 5:12-13)

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray... Lord of the feast, **you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us**

**by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, “See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² **He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,**

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation, “Alleluia,” p. 31 (*John 6:68*)

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

(spoken response): Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was

speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon: Pastor Beth Walch

Hymn of the Day: ELW #523, “Let Us Go Now to the Banquet”

Prayers of the Church, p. 34

After each petition, the assisting minister and congregation will say: “Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.”

Sharing of the Peace, p. 34 (*John 20:19*)

We greet one another with the words, “Peace be with you.”

Offering

Offertory, p. 35, “Let the Vineyards be Fruitful”

Offertory Prayer, p. 35

Great Thanksgiving, pp. 36ff.

Dialogue, p. 36

Preface, p. 36, “It is indeed right and salutary…”

Sanctus, p. 36, “Holy, holy, holy”

Words of Institution, p. 37 (*Matthew 26:26-28*)

Lord’s Prayer (*contemporary version, left side of page*), p. 39

Distribution

Time for Reflection

“Lamb of God”, p. 39

ACS #977, “Lord Who Gathers at Christ’s Table”

ELW #491, “Come, Let Us Eat”

Blessing, p. 40

Canticle, “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise,” p. 40 (*Psalms 9*)

Closing Prayer, p. 41

Benediction, p. 41 (*Numbers 6:23-26*)

Sending Hymn: ELW #547, “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Dismissal

Go in peace.

To love all, serve all and welcome all as Christ.

Worship Participants: Pastors: John Streccius & Beth Walch; **Assisting:** Peggy Christman; **Communion Assistants:** Deb Burke & Lynelle Lepp; **Ushers:** Gary & Diane Chepulis; **Acolyte:** HELP NEEDED; **Song Leaders:** Zoey, Emma & Mary Cooper; **Pianist:** David Larson; **October Altar Guild:** Deb Burke, Alice Westby, Stephanie Swenson; **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, Lavina Benkendorf, Jonathan Blazek, Cathy Bryant, Mason Chepulis, Dorothy Nielsen, Lydia Streccius, Jackie Gill, Chad Nelson, Doreen Kadrmas.

Flowers are given today by: Beth Walch in celebration of her grandson, Everett’s birthday.

Stewardship Info: Attendance – Sun. (10-4): 116 Wed. (10-7): 92

Offering: General Plate Giving: \$7,127.00 General Online Giving: \$7,065.56

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

October Service Group Leaders: Rod & Teresa McLachlan (333-8963)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with “Hin” through “Jus”

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 next Available Sunday is December 20. Cost is \$25.00/bouquet. The sign-up sheet s located at the Information Desk. **Please note Altar Flowers on check nemo line.

Personal Health Kits will be assembled on Tuesday, October 13 at 1:00 pm. Any extra help would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you to all who helped sort, assemble and pack baby care kits. We will be able to send 51 kits to Lutheran World Relief.

October is Clergy Appreciation month – Join us on Sunday, October 18th for coffee, fruit, and kuchen.

Adult Forums Sundays at 10:15 am: October 11 – Adult Learning Center led by Ashley Coles. October 18 – Ethics Commission – Rebecca Binstock/Pam Sharp. October 25 – Vocation and Faith Series. November 1 – NO Adult Forum, Affirmation of Faith Sunday.

Join us for YAHs Monday, October 12th at 2:30 pm AARP will present a program, The Six Pillars of Brain Health. Coffee and donuts will be served. Monday, November 9th, at 11:30 am 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.

Would you consider sponsoring a confirmation student this year? For approximately **\$50 per student**, we are able to provide engaging curriculum, snacks, special activities, and fun events that help our young people grow in faith and build meaningful relationships. Your gift, in any amount, is an investment in the faith formation of the next generation at Lord of Life. To support our Confirmation Ministry, write **“Confirmation”** in the memo line of your check or give online through **Vanco** by selecting the **Confirmation** square.

LORD OF LIFE BOOK CLUB: November 4th at 4:45 pm, we will discuss “11/22/63”, by Stephen King. A high school teacher who uses a time portal to travel back to 1958 to prevent the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963, leading to personal sacrifice and complex consequences for the altered timeline. **Book Club in December will be planning for 2027!**

October Study Club at Lord of Life: Join us every Monday in October from 6pm-8pm for a four-part class on “When Science Meets Religion: Friend or Foe?”, with Dr. Ernest Simmons (Professor of Religion emeritus at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN).

Endowment Fund Seeks Donations and Grant Applications. We've all heard of the gift that keeps on giving. Gifts to the Lord of Life Endowment Fund do just that. Whether it's \$50 or \$500 or \$5,000, such gifts help the fund keep growing and growing, each year generating income that can be used to further the mission of Lord of Life. Grants from the fund are awarded each year. Grants do not have to be used at Lord of Life, but applications must be sponsored by Lord of Life members. Applications for grants to be used in 2027 are now being accepted. Application forms are available in the church office and are also available on the Lord of Life web site -<https://www.lordoflifebismarck.org/> under the Serve & Give tab. Grant applications will be accepted at the church office through November 10, 2026.

2027 ELCA Youth Gathering: Imagine More! Youth currently in 8-12 grade are invited to join us **June 28–July 2, 2027, in Minneapolis** for the ELCA Youth Gathering! Experience worship, service, learning, community, and fun alongside thousands of youth from across the church. **Registration is due October 15.** Contact Michelle for registration information or questions.

Life is Change Grief Support Group: Join us on the first Monday 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 Monday of each month.**

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., October 11

9:00 am: Worship & Baptism
10:15 am: Church School
10:15 am: Adult Forum
10:15 am: Young Adult Bible Study

Mon., October 12

LOL @ Heaven's Helpers

2:30 pm: YAH's
6:00 pm: Faith & Science

Tues., October 13

9:30 am: Women's Bible Study
9:30 am: Staff – Bake Communion Bread
1:00 pm: Pack Health Kits
4:00 pm: Executive Team Meeting
6:00 pm: Snacks & Scripture
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wednesday, October 14

9:30 am: Quilts on pews
3:30 pm: Planning
5:00 pm: Family Meal – Chili & Cornbread
6:15 pm: Worship
7:00 pm: Church School & Confirmation

Thurs., October 15

Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm

8:30 am: Centering Prayer
9:30 am: Brunch with Beth
10:45 am: Book Study
6:00 pm: Assisting Minister Training
6:00 pm: Voicing Our Values Training

Fri., October 16

6:00 pm: Jr. High LYO

Sat., October 17

2:00 pm: Sr. High LYO

Sun., October 18

Clergy Appreciation

Quilt Sunday

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
5:00 pm: Life is Change Support Group