



Dancing at the Harvest
Sunday, August 16, 2026; 9:00 AM
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND
Pastors John Streccius and Beth Walch

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Hymn: “Come, Let Us Worship God”

Confession/Absolution
“Be Merciful, O God”

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray... God of all peoples, **your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant—⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Psalm: Psalm 67

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
² **that your way may be known upon earth,**
your saving power among all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.
⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,**
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.
⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
⁶ **The earth has yielded its increase;**
God, our God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Word: “From the Fullness of God”

Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Word: “From the Fullness of God”

Children’s Message

Message: Pastor Beth Walch

Hymn of the Day: ACS #1062, “Build a Longer Table”

Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of Intercession

*At the conclusion of each petition, the minister and **the congregation** will say:*
*“Gracious God in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**”*

Sharing of the Peace

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:** Stephanie Hickman; **Communion Assistants:** Lynelle Lepp; **Ushers:** LeAna Hug; **Acolyte:** McKenna Schwab; **Song Leader:** Taylor Heinzen; **Pianist:** David Larson; **August Altar Guild:** Barb Koch, Betty Steele and Nancy Kleingartner; **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, Krista Burkhardt, Marla Leno, Paula Brosseau, Pam Lang, Michelle Ellefson, Jack Lostlen, Ken Snyder, Sean Janoscrat, Lavina Benkendorf, Arnie Ellefson, Beverly Berry, Jonathan Blazek, Cathy Bryant, Barb Niemeyer, Scott Simmons.

Sympathies to the Ellefson, Thompson and Johnson families on the death of Audre Johnson.

Sympathies to Rod & Judy Kudrna on the death of their sister, Cheri Glatt.

Flowers are given today by: Burnie Kunz in memory of her parents’ birthdays.

Stewardship Info: Attendance – Sun. (8-9): 119 **Wed.** (8-12): 22

Offering: General Plate Giving: \$6,303.00 General Online Giving: \$9,122.66

July Ministry Spending: \$69,791.38 **July Giving:** \$50,152.96

Annual Ministry Spending through July: \$503,555.35

Annual Giving through July: \$448,280.40

August Service Group Leaders: Dave & Pat Goodin (220-1315)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with “Cra” through “Fra”

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! Volunteers are an important part of our services, and we invite you to prayerfully consider serving in one of the following roles: acolyte, communion assistant, greeter, usher, live stream, or PowerPoint. Signing up is easy—just visit the QR code or the computer in the Narthex to view available dates and choose what works best for you.

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 Sundays are October 18, November 8, December 13 & December 27. Cost is \$25.00/bouquet. The sign-up sheet is located at the Information Desk. **Please note Altar Flowers on check memo line.

Great Plains Food Bank Monetary Drive: Through the month of August we will be collecting monetary donations for the Great Plains Food Bank. Every \$1.00 donated provides the equivalent of \$4.00 worth of groceries to individuals and families facing hunger. Place your cash or checks in the collection basket in the narthex, checks can be written to Lord of Life (please note Food Drive on the memo line).

September is Lutheran World Relief Drive: We will be collecting items for Health Kits, direct questions to Peggy Christman at 471-7877 and layettes direct questions to Barb Wrolstad at 391-8640.

LORD OF LIFE BOOK CLUB: September 2nd at 4:45 pm, we will discuss “My Sisters Keeper”, by Jody Piccolt. A story of girl conceived as a “savior sibling” to provide genetic matches for her older sister who suffers from leukemia. Later in life she sues her parents for medical emancipation to prevent the donation of a kidney.

Great news from the CCO team! Thanks to your incredible support of the 2026 Rummage Sale; we were able to use a large portion of the proceeds to help our own Lord of Life Church with the following projects: \$1,515.66 for new Sunday School tables, \$500 for our newly established Young Adult Ministry, \$924.09 plus tax and shipping for the “Lutheran Yes” confirmation curriculum, and \$5,000 for Fellowship Hall lighting. Your donations and hard work truly make a difference.

Bars Needed: The CCO team has volunteered to support the Ministry on the Margins "Shoulder to Lean On" Community BBQ Fundraiser by donating 20 pans of bars for their event on August 26th. Please support this effort by baking a pan of bars. A signup sheet and an aluminum pan are located in the narthex. Bars can be left at the church on August 24th and 25th.

Lord of Life is scheduled to help Heaven's Helpers Soup Café on the second Monday of each month. Sign up by logging in to <https://www.soupcafe.org/volunteer/> or, if you need assistance signing up, please contact Shirley Klein at Shirley.klein7166@gmail.com or call her at 701-391-7166. Please remember to wear closed toe shoes.

Mark your calendars for Rally Sunday & Welcome Wednesday! Rally Sunday will take place on Sunday August 30 at 9:00am at Sleepy Hollow Park with lunch and games to follow, (bring a chair or blanket to sit on). Welcome Wednesday will be held Wednesday, September 2 at the church with dinner at 5:00 pm, worship at 6:15 pm and games to follow.

Out of the Darkness Walk: Join Lord of Life as we live out our faith through service by participating in the Bismarck/Mandan Out of the Darkness Walk on Sunday, September 13. This community event raises awareness and funds to support mental health and suicide prevention. Check-in begins at 12:00 p.m. with the walk starting at 2:00 p.m. To register for the walk and reserve your God's Work. Our Hands. T-shirt, scan both QR codes on the posters around the church or talk to Michelle.

Happening this week at Lord of Life
Summer Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am-12:00 pm
Church Office: 701-223-2986
www.lordoflifebismarck.org

Sun., August 16
9:00 am: Worship
5:00 pm: Life is Change Support Group
Mon., August 17
5:00 pm: ABC Training
Tue., August 18
10:00 am: Staff Meeting
6:00 pm: Financial Stewardship Team Meeting
7:00 pm: Council Meeting
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts
Wed., August 19
9:00 am: Staff Development Training
3:30 pm: Plarning
6:15 pm: Worship
Thurs., August 20
Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm
8:30 am: Centering Prayer
9:30 am: Brunch with Beth
Sun., August 23
9:00 am: Worship

Service and Hymns printed in this bulletin—unless in the public domain—are covered by One License #729673-A and CCLI License 3163838. All rights reserved. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-729673. All rights reserved. Portions of the Liturgy are reprinted from Sundays and Seasons, copyright 2026. Right under the copyright law of the USA to publicly perform certain lawfully obtained motion pictures from CVLI license #505541194.