Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 33
Sunday, November 15, 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 worship service is taken from All Creation Sings, Setting 12, pp. 29-41, at the front of the hymnal. The hymns are found at the back of Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).

Light type = Presiding and Assisting Ministers; **Bold type = Congregation**

Welcome and Announcements

Moment of Silence

Confession and Forgiveness, p. 29-30

Gathering Hymn: ELW #715, "Christ Be Our Light" *(vv. 1, 2, 5)*

Kyrie, p. 31
Hymn of Praise, "Glory to You"

Prayer of the Day
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us pray... Righteous God, **our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
[1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! [4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; [5] for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6] So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the

breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9] For God has
destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
[10] who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.
[11] Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 90:1-12

[1] Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
[2] Before the mountains were brought forth
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
[3] You turn us back to dust
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
[4] For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past
or like a watch in the night.
[5] You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
[6] in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.
[7] For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
[8] You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
[9] For all our days pass away under your wrath;
our years come to an end like a sigh.
[10] The days of our life are seventy years
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;
even then their span is only toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.
[11] Who considers the power of your anger?
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.
[12] So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia. Abide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit.
Alleluia. (John 15:4, 5)
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30
The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.
14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his
property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each
according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five
talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the
one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the
one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a
long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one
who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His
master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in
a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'
22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over
to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well
done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put
you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had
received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh
man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was
afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But
his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I
did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my
money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with
interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to
all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those
who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave,
throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon: Pastor Beth Walch

Hymn of the Day: ELW #689, "Praise and Thanksgiving"

Apostles' Creed, p. 17

Prayers of Intercession, p. 34
At the conclusion of each petition, the minister and ***the congregation*** *will say: "God of grace:* ***hear our prayer."***

Sharing of the Peace, p. 35
We greet one another with the words, "Peace be with you."

Ingathering of Intent Cards
Commitment Hymn: ELW #686, "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Offering
Offertory ELW #182, "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"
Offertory Prayer
Communion
Dialogue, p. 36
Preface, p. 36
Sanctus, "Holy, Holy, Holy," p. 36
Words of Institution
Lord's Prayer *(contemporary version, left side)***, p. 39**

Distribution
Time for Reflection
"Be Known To Us, Lord Jesus," p. 40
ELW #471, "Let Us Break Bread Together"
ELW #472, "Eat This Bread"

Post-Communion Blessing
Post-Communion Canticle, ACS #1000, "God's Work, Our Hands" *(v.4)*
Post-Communion Prayer
Blessing, p. 41

Sending Hymn: ELW #674, "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

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

Worship Participants: Pastors: John Streccius & Beth Walch; **Worship Helpers:** McKenna Schwab, Martha Zander, Charlotte Wagner, Zoey Cooper, Sutton Steinle, Kyla Dukart, Lauren Gustafson; **Accompanist:** David Larson; **November Altar Guild:** Patty Wanner, Arlyce Malarkey, Stephanie Swenson, Deb Honeyman.

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, Doreen Kadrmas, Cindy Kraft, Kathy Gappert, Kim McCullough, Joyce Klundt.

Flowers are given today by: Noah Knudson in memory of Marilyn Knudson.

Stewardship Info: Attendance – **Sun**. (11-8): 110 **Wed.** (11-11): 70
Offering: General Plate Giving: $8,522.30 General Online Giving: $8,396.34
October Ministry Spending: $63,561.97 **October Giving:** $50,065.57
Annual Ministry Spending through October: $692,479.97
Annual Giving through October: $621,067.23

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 2027 sign up is now available at the Information Desk. Cost is $25.00/bouquet. **Please note Altar Flowers on check memo line.

Christmas Cheer Bags - As we prepare for the Advent season, we invite you to help us identify individuals who could use a reminder of God's love and the care of our church family. Please submit the names of people in our congregation or in your personal lives who may be experiencing hardships, illness, grief, loss, loneliness, or other difficult circumstances and would be blessed by receiving a Christmas Cheer Bag. Please submit names to Jessica (701-223-2986), Crystal Engel (701-741-7346), or Shirley Klein (701-391-7166) by November 20.

Decorating the church for Christmas will take place on Sunday, November 22 after worship. Any extra helping hands would be greatly appreciated!

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, December 14th at 2:30 pm for a Christmas party featuring a local singing group, coffee and holiday baking treats.

Gather with our neighboring churches for a Community Thanksgiving Service, Tuesday, November 24, 2026 at 7 pm. The host church this year is Legacy Methodist Church, 4600 Durango Dr., Bismarck. As has been the tradition, there will be a pie social after the service. There will be **NO** Wednesday worship or programs at Lord of Life on Wednesday, November 25th.

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!

Adult Forums Sundays at 10:15 am - November 15 – Suicide Prevention Coalition. November 22 – Jordan Nygard, Asset Giving. November 29 – First Sunday in Advent, what does this season mean for us? December 6 – Youth Bake Auction for Youth Gathering.

Calling all young adults! Join us for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and gratitude at the Schwab Residence on Saturday, November 21, at 12:00 noon! The Schwab's will provide a meat dish, and we ask everyone attending to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come enjoy a delicious meal, great conversation, and time together as we celebrate the blessings of friendship and community! Need the address? Message Michelle at 701-218-0434. We hope to see you there!

Our Youth Bake Auction will be held Sunday, December 6, following worship! We invite everyone to donate their favorite baked goodies, whether it's cookies, cakes, pies, breads, or any other delicious treats! Not a baker? No problem! Come ready to place your bids and take home something tasty while supporting our youth! All proceeds will help our youth attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering this summer! Thank you for supporting our young people on their faith journey!

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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 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
Mon., November 16
11:30 am: PEO Meeting
5:00 pm: ABC Training
6:30 pm: Piecemakers
Tue., November 17
9:30 am: Piecemakers
10:00 am: Staff Meeting
6:00 pm: Financial Stewardship Team Meeting
7:00 pm: Council Meeting
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts
Wed., November 18
Appeal Wednesday
3:30 pm: Plarning
4:30 pm: Endowment Meeting in conf. room
5:00 pm: Family Meal
6:15 pm: Worship – Youth Led
7:00 pm: Church School & Confirmation
Thurs., November 19
Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm
8:30 am: Centering Prayer
9:30 am: Brunch with Beth
10:45 am: Book Study
6:00 pm: Palm Sunday Path Training
Fri., November 20
December/January Newsletter Deadline
6:00 pm: Youth Mock In at LOL
Sat., November 21
9:30 am: Lefse Making
Sun., November 22
Lefse Sales
9:00 am: Worship
10:15 am: Church School
10:15 am: Adult Forum
10:15 am: Young Adult Bible Study
2:00 pm: F.H. Reserved