



Seventh Sunday after Epiphany—Lectionary 7
Sunday, February 24, 2019: 8:30 & 11:00 am
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND
Pastor Nadine Lehr and Pastor Beth Walch

Welcome to worship! Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glory of God revealed in the Christ.

Today's order of service is taken from the booklet, Now the Feast and Celebration (NFC). The hymns are found in the hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).

Light type = Presiding and Assisting Ministers; **bold type** = **Congregation.**

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness, NFC, p. 2 (1 John 1:8-9)

Entrance Hymn: ELW #379, "Now the Green Blade Rises"

Greeting, NFC, p. 2

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

Song of Praise, "Now the Feast," NFC, pp. 4-5 (Revelation 5:12-13)

Salutation and Prayer of the Day, NFC, p. 7

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray . . . **O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me,

do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. ⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Children's Message

Gospel Verse, "Alleluia, Alleluia," NFC, p. 8 (John 6:68)

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.' **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Pastor Nadine Lehr

Hymn of the Day: ELW #631, “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Apostles’ Creed, NFC, p. 9

Prayers, NFC, p. 10

At the conclusion of each petition, the pastor and the congregation will say: “Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.”

Offering, NFC, p. 10

Special Music: (11:00) Lord of Life Choir, “Soon and Very Soon”

Offertory ELW #294, “In the Bleak Midwinter” (verse 3)

Offertory Prayer, p. 11

Great Thanksgiving, NFC, pp. 11-13

Dialogue, NFC, p. 11

Preface, NFC, p. 11

Holy, NFC, p. 11

Words of Institution (Matthew 26:26-28)

Lord’s Prayer, NFC, p. 13 (Matthew 6:9-13)

Distribution

“Lamb of God,” NFC, p. 14 (John 1:29)

ELW #471, “Let Us Break Bread Together”

ELW #783, “Praise and Thanks and Adoration”

ELW #708, “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Blessing, NFC, p. 14

Canticle, “Thanks be to You,” NFC, p. 15 (Psalm 9)

Closing Prayer, NFC, p. 16

We give you thanks, O God, for the blessings of this table. May our lives be made new by these gifts of grace and may your love be made known through us. **Amen.**

Benediction and Dismissal, NFC, p. 16 (Numbers 6:23-26)

Sending Hymn: ELW #775, “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Worship Participants: Preaching: Nadine Lehr; **Presiding:** Beth Walch; **Assisting:** (8:30)

Roxanne Gardner (11:00) Sarah Carlson; **Communion Assistants:** (11:00) Judy Froseth;

Ushers: (8:30) Keith & Mary Jane Sailer (11:00) Laurie & John Sundeen; **Acolyte:** (8:30)

Taryn Nelson (11:00) Karter Francis; **Song Leader:** Ruby Altringer; **Pianist:** Becky Salveson;

February Altar Guild: Justine Bennes, Franky Enger, Arlyce Malarkey, Bob Salveson; **Power**

Point: Reid Halvorson

Prayers at Lord of Life: Layne Billings, Judy Swenson, Levi Gartner, Tim Johnson, John O’Brien, Andre Stephenson, Rev. Richard Beckmen, Tyler Ellefson, Hugh Gustafson, Brad Kjos, Diane Chepulis, Steve Schmidt, Shae (Hug) Byrum, Lester Toman, Patsy McGuire-Holland.

Sympathies to Larry & Pat Klundt on the death of Pat’s brother Delayne Halverson.

Flowers are given today by: Roger & LeNor Dollinger in memory of family.

Stewardship Info: Attendance–Sun.(2-17):146 Wed.(2-20):60 Offering: General \$8,347.16

January expenses: \$35,969.65

January income: \$41,940.26

Annual expenses through January: \$35,969.65

Annual income through January: \$41,940.26

February Service Group Leaders: Franky & Ward Enger (701-934-3122)

Janell Quinlan (224-8244)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with “Pu” through “Say”

Worship Helps: The Nursery is open, but not regularly staffed. Parents may use it as needed. An Infant care room is on the south side of the sanctuary. **Large Print Bulletins, a wheelchair and a walker,** and personal **p.a. devices** are available from the ushers’ station. **Activity Bags** for children are available on the tree rack in the narthex. **Children’s Bulletins** are available by the Activity Bags.

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. Taste and see that the Lord is good!

For Communion: Grape juice is always available. Simply indicate “grape juice, please” when you get to the server. "Gluten free” communion wafers and wine are available. Simply indicate “gluten free” to the server when you come to the communion station." If you need separate wine or grape juice please request that also.

The **2019 Flower Chart** is up in the gathering area. You are welcome to take the flowers after the last service. Flowers not picked up by Monday morning will be taken to shut-ins. If your message does not fit on the line, please contact the church office with that information.

FLOWER CHART OPENINGS

 March 10	One Bouquet	March 24	One Bouquet
March 31	One Bouquet	April 21	One Bouquet

COMMUNION ASSISTANT OPENINGS

March 3	8:30 & 11:00	March 10	8:30
March 17	8:30 & 11:00	March 24	8:30 & 11:00

USHER OPENINGS

March 3	11:00	March 10	8:30
March 17	8:30 & 11:00	March 24	8:30

PLEASE USE CAUTION WHEN ENTERING/EXITING THE NORTH DOORS. Due to the cold weather the pavement has heaved, it has been marked with orange paint but please be careful not to trip!

Our New Member classes will be held today, Sunday, February 24th at 9:45 am. New members will be received at the 11:00 am service on Sunday, March 3.

Small Group Leaders and 9th Graders don't forget to attend the required class today, February 24th from 1:00 pm-5:00 pm at church. This is a retreat to begin preparations for your Affirmation of Faith! **Following this will be the February Youth event from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm.** Join us for free pizza, games and karaoke led by Mr. Kjos and Nash Binegar.

Vaping has been "In The News" and will be discussed today, February 24 during our education hour. Kristie Wolff will lead the session with showing us vaping products, answer questions and tell us about vaping product concerns. Kristie worked with American Lung of North Dakota and found her passion is prevention of vaping. Come join us to learn about the Vaping epidemic.

Thank you to all who have volunteered for the Banquet on March 2nd, we have enough volunteers!

Young at Hearts will be meeting on Tuesday, February 26 at 11:30 am for a Pie Party serving pizza pies, salad and homemade pies. Enjoy a program by Judith Hammer on the connections of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt to North Dakota. Also, mark your calendars for March 26, April 23 and May 28th for YAHS.

NINETEEN REASONS TO SHARE SPECIAL MUSIC OR SONG LEAD AT LOL:

1. Stewardship: I Peter 4:10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." Contact Marilyn Kesterke, LOL Music Coordinator.

Baby Care Kits: If you need a winter project, we need help with hemming or serging baby receiving blankets. Feel free to take some home with you and return them by June 1st or join us on March 4 at 12:30 for a sewing afternoon at church. Last year, we were able to send 67 baby care kits and would like to make it 100 for 2019. With your help, we can make this happen.

A concert not to be missed! The Concordia Choir will be performing at Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 16th at 7:30 pm. The cost is \$20 Adults/\$15 Seniors/\$5 Students. Tickets are available online at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4048967>, or picked up at Lord of Life, Trinity and Lutheran Church of the Cross church offices around February 1st. The singers will need to be housed on Saturday March 16th after the concert and then brought to Lord of Life on Sunday morning to catch their bus. We are partnering with Trinity Lutheran and Lutheran Church of the Cross to house these college students in groups of 2 or 4, they can share a queen bed. Please let Pastor Beth know if you are available to take in a few nice kids. If so, let her know of any pets you may have.

Join us for Book Club on February 27 at 4:45 pm. February's book is "Half Broke Horses" by Jeannette Walls. It is the story of Lily Casey Smith, growing up on a horse ranch, surviving tornadoes, droughts, floods and the Great Depression. Half Broke Horses is the Laura Ingalls Wilder for adults. Books are available in the church office. **March's book will be "A Mother's Reckoning: Living in the Aftermath of Tragedy" by Sue Klebold.** Sue is the mother of to the Columbine shooter, Dylan. More information to come.

March is our month to deliver Meals on Wheels. The sign up sheets are full! Thank you to everyone for signing up so quickly!!

Let's go to Colorado! High school students, it's time to let me know if you can go to Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp this summer from July 21-27. The camp is excited to have us come and serve God by serving the camp and experiencing the beauty of the Rocky Mountains. Sign up with Pastor Beth.

For the Lord of Life Directory, those of you without current photographs, we will be taking pictures starting March 3rd on Sunday's between services and Wednesday evenings following worship starting March 6th. It will take just a few minutes to get it done, so we won't take up much of your time. If you already have a photo you would like to use, please turn it into the office either by email (lordoflife@midconetnetwork.com) or drop off a hard copy! Be sure to include names, phone numbers and addresses! Thank you!

Please join Cozy Comfort on March 4 from 2:00pm-4:00pm in the church library. Cozy Comfort is a positive group who knits or crochets prayer shawls. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, we would be happy to help you get started!

Lent begins very soon. On Wednesday, March 6, we will gather for Ash Wednesday worship at 6:15 pm. We will hear God's call for us to repent, we will remember our mortality with the mark of ashes on our foreheads, and gather at the table to receive food and drink to

sustain us in the 40-day Lenten journey. After Ash Wednesday, our Lenten series (for both Sundays and Wednesdays) will focus on acts of love for “The Least of These.” Performing acts of love is one of the classic Lenten disciplines. Giving this love to the “least of these” was defined in Jesus’ parable of the Sheep and the Goats where God says: “*Come, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.*” Using these words as our manual for performing acts of love and shaping our devotion, we will focus on the hungry, the thirsty, the strangers, the sick, and the imprisoned. Each week will include worship services written by the pastors with special attention to one of the groups; Wednesday noon lunches where we will talk about how we fit into each of these groups, if not materially, then spiritually; and weekly collections of gifts for each vulnerable group.

If you want to continue your reading and scripture reflections at home, these are the appointed scriptures for NEXT week, Transfiguration of Our Lord, 3/03/2019.

Exodus 34:29-35: *Coming down from Mount Sinai, Moses’ face shone*

Psalm 99: *Proclaim the greatness of the LORD; worship upon God’s holy hill. (Ps. 99:9)*

2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2: *With unveiled faces we see the Lord’s glory as we are transformed*

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]: *Jesus is transfigured on the mountain*

Theological Reflection

Today’s gospel finds us living in our contemporary world as we wait for a world that is to come. In a way, this day is caught outside of time, balanced between the seasons of Epiphany and Lent, with characters from the Old and New Testaments undergirding both the disciples’ past and God’s future. We stand on this mountain with Peter, John, and James. The festivities and glories of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany are behind us; the trials and victory of Lent, Easter, and Pentecost are ahead of us. Consider where your worshiping assembly has come from and where it is going, in both the short and the long terms. Celebrate the mountains climbed together, and prepare for the journey ahead.

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Happening this week at Lord of Life

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Friday 8:00 am-3:00 pm

Lunch Hour: 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Church Office: 701-223-2986

www.lordoflifebismarck.org

Sun., February 24

8:30 am: Worship

9:45 am: Adult Ed

9:45 am: Sunday School

9:45 am: New Member Class

11:00 am: Worship

1:00 pm: 9th Grade Retreat

5:00 pm: Youth Karaoke and Games

Tues., February 26

9:00 am: Staff Meeting

11:30 am: Young at Hearts

7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wed., February 27

4:45 pm: Book Club

6:15 pm: Worship

7:00 pm: Church School

7:00 pm: Confirmation Large Group

Sat., March 2

8:30 am: Men’s Bible Study

Sun., March 3

8:30 am: Worship

9:45 am: Adult Ed

9:45 am: Sunday School

11:00 am: New Member Recognition

11:00 am: Worship