



**Second Week in Lent—"For the Least of These—the Thirsty"**  
**Sunday, March 17, 2019: 8:30 am & 11:00 am**  
**Wednesday, March 20, 2019: 6:15 pm**  
**Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND**  
**Pastor Nadine Lehr and Pastor Beth Walch**

*In today's worship we remember the words of Jesus from the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats: "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, 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." (Matthew 25:35-36) Jesus tells us that when we perform these acts of love "for the least of these," we do them for him. Today we focus on the Thirsty that God calls us to help. Our worship service has been written by our pastors and uses materials from various sources.*

*Please note that **Bold Type** = Congregation; Light Type = Worship Leader.*

**Call to Worship**

We come, for God gathers us here,  
With that community called faith:

**Where the hungry are served first,  
Where the thirsty drink life's water**

We come, for God welcomes us here  
Into that home called grace:

**Where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;  
Where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

We come, for God reunites us here,  
Sisters and brothers in that family called love;

**Where the imprisoned model justice,  
Where the sick are cradled in God's peace.**

*From Liturgies Alive, Models of Celebration <http://www.bibleclaret.org/liturgy/CycleA/>*

**Opening Hymn: ELW #331, "As the Deer Runs to the River"**

**Words of Confession and Forgiveness**

**God of love, You created us to love you and one another. We confess that we have sometimes limited that love to words, and failed to reveal your love by our actions. We have failed to recognize Christ in the hungry, the thirsty, the homeless, the naked, the sick, and the incarcerated. Too often, we have turned away from you, failing to share with our sisters and brothers who are in need. Forgive us. Turn our hearts, and guide us to follow you anew.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and has compassion for all creation. **Thanks be to God!**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. . . **Lord, let our hearts not be far from you. Help us to reach out to our neighbor, even when we are busy or tired. Let us tear down walls when we'd rather let them stand. Stretch us please. Whether we are visiting a prisoner, offering a smile, feeding the hungry, be within us so that whatever we do, we do with your love. Let the world know we are your disciples, not because our hands are clean, but because they are soiled with the marks of your people. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

*Written by Anne Osdieck, and posted on Saint Louis University's The Center for Liturgy web site. <https://foodgrainsbank.ca/product/lord-let-our-hearts-not-be-far-from-you/>*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**First Reading: John 4:1-29, 40-42**

<sup>1</sup>Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, 'Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John'—<sup>2</sup> although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized—<sup>3</sup>he left Judea and started back to Galilee. <sup>4</sup>But he had to go through Samaria. <sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called

Christ). ‘When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.’<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, ‘I am he, the one who is speaking to you.’<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, ‘What do you want?’ or, ‘Why are you speaking with her?’<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> ‘Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?’<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, ‘It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.’ **Thanks be to God.**

**(Sunday Only) Psalm 107:1, 4-9, 33-38, 43** (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

<sup>4</sup> **Some wandered in desert wastes,  
finding no way to an inhabited town;**

<sup>5</sup> hungry and thirsty,  
their soul fainted within them.

<sup>6</sup> **Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress;**

<sup>7</sup> he led them by a straight way,  
until they reached an inhabited town.

<sup>8</sup> **Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.**

<sup>9</sup> For he satisfies the thirsty,  
and the hungry he fills with good things.

<sup>33</sup> **He turns rivers into a desert,  
springs of water into thirsty ground,**

<sup>34</sup> a fruitful land into a salty waste,  
because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.

<sup>35</sup> **He turns a desert into pools of water,  
a parched land into springs of water.**

<sup>36</sup> And there he lets the hungry live,  
and they establish a town to live in;

<sup>37</sup> **they sow fields, and plant vineyards,  
and get a fruitful yield.**

<sup>38</sup> By his blessing they multiply greatly,  
and he does not let their cattle decrease.

<sup>43</sup> **Let those who are wise give heed to these things,  
and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.**

### Children’s Sermon

### Second Reading: Matthew 10:40-42

<sup>40</sup> ‘Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.’<sup>41</sup> ‘Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous;’<sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon: Pastor Beth Walch

### Hymn of the Day: “Come, Now, You Blessed” (See back page)

*(The text of the following hymn represents a dialogue between Christ and the faithful. Verses 1 and 3 will be sung by the north half of the sanctuary while Verses 2 and 4 will be sung by the south half of the sanctuary).*

*Text: Ruth Duck, 1979, ©1992, GIA Publications, Inc.; All Rights Reserved One License #729673-A*

### (Sunday Only) Prayers of the People

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

**Offering** *(All offerings received in the plates today will go to the General Budget at Lord of Life. In addition, you may contribute to the offering for Water Filtration Systems by giving a gift in the baskets at the door.)*

**Offertory: ELW #686, “We Give Thee but Thine Own”**

### (Sunday Only) Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, in this offering we return to you a portion of the blessings you have showered upon us. Bless these gifts, that they might bring comfort, food, and shelter to those who need it. Bless those who receive these gifts. Let them know your love through full bellies, warm clothing, and safe places to sleep. Amen.

### (Sunday Only) Invitation to Communion

“We know love by this, that Christ laid down his life for us.”

We come to this table to celebrate and experience that life-giving love.

We come to this table to break bread together. Some come to this table hungry, struggling to find the bread they need for each day. Some come to this table with access to plenty of food, but starving for God’s nourishing love.

What we see in this feast of love, a table where all are fed, can also make us hungry for a world that is more like this table. This bread and cup can sustain us and give us the strength to lay down our lives for one another.

*Taken From: Week of Compassion. Leader's Guide <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/52d3d84ae4b03c7eaedecdb/t/5a3915c171c10b6d1374b5a3/1513690665436/Leaders+Guide+2017>*

## **Words of Institution**

### **Lord's Prayer**

### **Distribution**

#### **We Were Born Out of the Waters**

*NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

We were born out of the waters that give life to all the earth.

We were made God's sons and daughters at the font of our rebirth.

Every day, God's waters bless us! We are nourished and renewed;

For the waters that surround us give us life and health and food.

Just as rivers join each other, all creation joins in song.

All of nature works together, bold and beautiful and strong.

Fish that fill a flowing river, springs of water from below

Daily point us to the Giver from whom blessings overflow.

God, we hear the troubling thunder of the shouts of "Profit first!"

Land and streams are torn asunder till creation cries in thirst.

God, we thirst for healthy waters and for justice for the land,

As your faithful sons and daughters, may we rise to take a stand.

God who made the whole creation, with its rivers, fields and streams,

You have given us a vision of what caring for them means.

May we care for all your waters, for your land, for sky above;

May we serve you as protectors of this world that you so love.

*Biblical texts: Genesis 1-2; John 3:16*

*Tune: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813*

*Text: Copyright © 2017 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.*

**ELW #712, "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"**

**ELW #710, "Let Streams of Living Water"**

### **Post-Communion Blessing**

### **(Sunday Only) Post-Communion Canticle: "Praise to You, O God of Mercy"**

Praise to you, O God of mercy: Thanks be to you forever!

Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!

From of old, you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!

Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!

Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,

Rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!

Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!

*Text and music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc., All Rights Reserved One License #729673-A*

### **Closing Prayer**

Gracious God, we praise You for this heavenly banquet that You have so freely given us. Thank you that we carry in our hearts the riches of your grace. May we pour it out wherever we go, lighting up the darkness with truth, speaking out hope where there is despair, and weaving Your unconditional love into all we do. Send us now in the power and strength of the Holy Spirit.

May we live to be all that You have called us to be. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

*([https://www.prayerscapes.com/prayers/occasions/communion\\_prayers.html#ixzz5exX6eHCW](https://www.prayerscapes.com/prayers/occasions/communion_prayers.html#ixzz5exX6eHCW))*

### **Benediction and Dismissal**

"Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people." Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!

*("Christ Has No Body" by Teresa of Avila)*

### **Closing Hymn: ELW #423, "Shall We Gather at the River"**

**Worship Participants: Preaching:** Beth Walch; **Presiding:** Nadine Lehr; **Assisting:** (8:30 & 11:00) Linda Simmons; **Communion Assistants:** (8:30) Wayne & Beverly Kern (11:00) Sheryl & Perry Hardy; **Ushers:** (8:30) Dan & Barb Wrolstad (11:00) Keith & Beth Demke; **Acolyte:** (8:30) Jenica Twete (11:00) Ava Vetter; **Pianist:** Marilyn Kesterke; **March Altar Guild:** Barb Koch, Diane Clinton, Stephanie Swenson and Bob Salveson; **Powerpoint:** 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, Darrell Christianson, Elsie Gilbertson.

Sympathies to Alyaa Mahammed and family on the death of Alyaa's mother.  
 Sympathies to Linda Krueger and family on the death of Merrill Krueger.

**Flowers are given today by:** Gary & Lori Ledahl in honor of Lori's father, Jacob Hertz.

**Stewardship Info:**

**Attendance – Sun.**(3-10): 159 **Wed.**(3-13): **38** **Offering:** General \$12,230.71

**February expenses:** \$58,777.22 **February income:** \$44,637.20

**Annual expenses through February:** \$95,346.87

**Annual income through February:** \$86,621.04

**March Service Group Leaders:** Byron & Justine Bennes (222-8853)  
 Mike & Arlyce Malarkey (426-5236)

**Volunteers:** Members with last names starting with “Sch” through “Steir”

**Worship Helps: 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. **“I Give Electronically” cards** are available in the lobby near the children's bulletins.

**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 24	1 bouquet	May 5	2 bouquets
June 9	1 bouquet	June 16	2 bouquets



**COMMUNION ASSISTANT OPENINGS**

March 24	11:00	March 31	8:30 & 11:00
April 7	8:30 & 11:00	April 14	8:30 & 11:00

**USHER OPENINGS**

March 24	8:30	March 31	8:30
April 7	8:30 & 11:00	April 14	8:30 & 11:00

**Lent 2019: For the Least of These**

**Wednesday (6:15 pm) and Sunday (8:30 am and 11:00 am) Lenten Worship**

In this year's worship series, we will remember Jesus words in the parable of the Sheep and the Goats: *“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 drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick 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”* (Matt. 25:34-36). Each week's worship will focus on one of the groups mentioned by Christ in the parable. Special offerings will also be taken.

**Week Two: March 17-23 – The Thirsty**

We will reflect on Christ's promise that everyone who gives a cup of cold water to those who thirst will receive a reward. We will collect offerings to purchase family water filtration systems through Lutheran World Relief. Each system costs \$190.

**Week Three- March 24-30 – The Stranger**

We will consider God's instructions of how faithful people are to care for resident aliens. We will also remember the parable of the Great Dinner where the host of a wedding invites outsiders to a great feast. To demonstrate our concern for the stranger, we will collect toiletries for refugee families through Lutheran Social Services.

**Week Four – March 31-April 6 – The Sick**

We will review Christ's healing of a demoniac and a group of lepers. We will also collect flat white twin sheets (please no other colors or sizes) to be sent to Global Health Ministries where they will be used for bedding or for bandages in hospitals around the world.

**Week Five – April 7-13 – The Imprisoned**

We will remember the promise that the Messiah will proclaim liberty to the captives and we will review the story of Paul and Silas singing their way out of prison. As an offering this week, we will provide assistance to Ministry on the Margins by providing a hot breakfast to their clients on Tuesday, April 9 and by working in the Ministry on the Margins food pantry on Thursday, April 11. Lord of Life members will also have the opportunity to donate food items to the pantry. Watch for volunteer sign up sheets and pantry food lists in the narthex.

### **Wednesday Luncheons and Discussion – March 20, 27, April 3, 10 at 12 noon**

In addition to weekly worship, we will reflect on the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats with roundtable Bible study and discussion every Wednesday at noon. The pastors will lead the studies, which will be aimed at discovering how each of us experiences hunger, thirst, loneliness, sickness and prison in our own spiritual lives. Please bring your own brown bag lunch.

### **Holy Week Worship**

Palm Sunday Cantata: Sunday, April 14, 9:30 am

Living Last Supper with First Communion: Thursday, April 18, 7:00 pm

Good Friday Echoes of the Passion: Friday, April 19, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Festival Worship: April 21, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am

**Palm Sunday Cantata.** In preparation for your Easter Celebration, please join us on Palm Sunday for a musical Interpretation of Jesus' journey to the cross. Lord of Life Choir will present "Lift High the Cross" by Lloyd Larson. Featured within the cantata will be Mozart's Ave Verum Corpus (Hail, True Body) performed by a local string quartet. All children are welcome to join in a palm processional to recall Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. **The Cantata will be at 9:30am on Palm Sunday, April 14.** Please plan to attend – and perhaps invite guests to – this meaningful performance. This Cantata will be in place of regular Sunday Services.

**Chocolate and Change Needed! Our Palm Sunday Easter egg hunt needs your help!** Can you purchase a bag of Easter candy the next time you are shopping? There will be a box at the information desk to drop your donation. Also, there will be a canister for any spare change you can share. We will put the change in some of the Easter eggs. Kids who find these eggs will get to choose from a few charities to donate the money they find.

**Young at Hearts will meet Tuesday, March 26th at 11:30 am.** The program will be a speaker from the Senior Center informing us about all the services and activities available. A potato bar will be served for lunch (free of charge) with rhubarb and pineapple upside down cakes for dessert! All seniors welcome!

**For the Lord of Life Directory, those of you without current photographs, we are now taking pictures on Sunday's between services and Wednesday evenings following worship .** 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@midconetwork.com](mailto:lordoflife@midconetwork.com)) or drop off a hard copy! Be sure to include names, phone numbers and addresses! Thank you!

**Adult Education:** Join us today, March 17 to discuss Church of the Latter Day Saints. Please note there will be NO adult education on March 24th. March 31 we will host Jane G. Sportiello, Staff Attorney from Legal Services of North Dakota speaking about the US immigration process.

**A Memorial Service for Merrill Krueger, husband of Linda Krueger, will be held at Lord of Life on Friday, May 24th at 11:00 am.**

**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. 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.

**Come sing with the choir for the Palm Sunday Cantata!** We would love to have you join us for a few rehearsals and our performance. We have rehearsals Thursday April 4<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 PM, Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 PM, and Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 PM. The performance is Palm Sunday (April 14<sup>th</sup>) at 9:30. Please contact Nora Salveson if you are interested or have questions - 471.1092.

**LOL BOOK CLUB:** March's book is "A Mother's Reckoning: Living In the Aftermath of Tragedy" by Sue Klebold. On April 20, 1999, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold walked into Columbine High School in Littleton, CO, where they killed 12 students and a teacher, and wounded 24 others before taking their own lives. The book deals with Sue, and how she has lived with the shame and grief of that day. Books are available at Barnes and Noble or on Amazon. Plan to join us March 27th at 4:45 pm for discussion!

## 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](http://www.lordoflifebismarck.org)

### Sun., March 17

8:30 am: Worship

9:45 am: Adult Education

9:45 am: Sunday School

9:45 am: Choir Rehearsal

11:00 am: Worship

### Mon., March 18

6:30 pm: Piecemakers

### Tues., March 19

9:00 am: Staff Meeting

9:30 am: Piecemakers

7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

### Wed., March 20

*Newsletter Deadline*

12:00 pm: Brown Bag Luncheon

5:00 pm: Lenten Meal

6:15 pm: Worship

7:00 pm: Confirmation Large Group/Parents Night

7:00 pm: Church School

### Thurs., March 21

*Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm*

9:30 am: Brunch with Beth

### Sat., March 23

8:30 am: Men's Bible Study

### Sun., March 24

8:30 am: Worship

9:45 am: Choir Rehearsal

No Sunday School

No Adult Education

11:00 am: Worship & Baptism

## “Come, Now, You Blessed”

1. “Come, now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,”  
2. “When did we see you hun - gry or thirst - y?”  
3. “When you gave bread to earth’s hun - gry chil - dren,  
4. Christ, when we meet you out on life’s road - ways,

said the great judge to the right - eous a - bove.  
When were you home - less, a strang - er a - lone?  
when you gave wel - come to war’s ref - u - gees,  
look - ing to us in the fa - ces of need,

“When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home-less,  
When did we see you sick or in pris - on?”  
when you re - mem - bered those most for - got - ten,  
then may we know you, wel - come, and show you

sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love.”  
What have we done that you call us your own?”  
you cared for me in the small - est of these.”  
love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.