



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 24
Sunday, September 16, 2018; 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND
Pastor Nadine Lehr and Pastor Beth Walch

Three weeks ago we heard John's gospel's version of Peter's confession of faith. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of "messiah") in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross. Welcome to our guests. Please come again!

Gathering Song: "Days Of Elijah"

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Source of all life, we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven,

☩ God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new,
in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. . . . O God, **through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

Song of Praise: "Oh How Good It Is"

Welcome and Announcements

Blessing of the Backpacks

Reading: James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Gospel: Mark 8:27–38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' ²⁸And they answered him, 'John the

Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.’ ²⁹He asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered him, ‘You are the Messiah.’ ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’ ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.’
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Beth Walch

Song of the Day: “I Will Sing The Wondrous Story”

Recognition of New Members *(8:30 am)*

Sacrament of Holy Baptism *(11:00 am)*

Haven Cora Atkinson, daughter of Jesse and Ashley Atkinson. Baptismal sponsors are Ryan Richter and Roberta Abernathy.

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

Through baptism God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear God’s creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

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.

Prayers of Intercession

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

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of life, **you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Communion

Communion will be served by intinction. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to the chancel. The first server will give you a wafer. Please hold it and proceed to the second server who has a chalice of wine or grape juice. Dip the wafer into the chalice of your choice. The wine is served first, the grape juice second. Following communion please return to your seat.

**“Thank You Lord”
“Because He Lives”**

Communion Blessing

Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, **in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.**

Benediction

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Sound the good news.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Song: “My Redeemer Lives”

Worship Participants: Preaching & Presiding: Beth Walch; **Assisting:** (8:30 & 11:00) Sarah Carlson; **Communion Assistants:** (8:30) Keith & Mary Jane Sailer (11:00) Perry & Sheryl Hardy; **Ushers:** (8:30) Gary & Diane Chepulis (11:00) Mark & Stephanie Swenson & Family; **Acolyte:** (8:30) Brett Whitney (11:00) Aiden Hoff; **September Altar Guild:** Nancy Kleingartner, Betty Steele and Judy Miller; **Powerpoint:** Reid Halvorson

Prayers at Lord of Life: Layne Billings, Judy Swenson, Levi Gartner, Tim Johnson, John O’Brien, Roger Thompson, Andre Stephenson, Michelle Parkin-Ellefson, Delayne & Dorothea Halverson, Rev. Richard Beckmen, Tom Hug, Ramona Sorneson, Shae Byrum, Duane Barry, Betty Anderson, Craig Carlson, Shelly Blumhagen, Arlow Bien, Doreen Kadrmas.

Flowers are given today by: Lucille Miller, Karen Krauth, and Ruby Altringer.

Stewardship Info:

Attendance –Sun. (9-9): 220 **Wed.** (9-12): 96 **Offering:** General \$13,645.45

August Expenses: \$45,716.87 August Income; \$44,500.67
Annual Expenses through August: \$395,536.41
Annual Income through August: \$380,695.66

September Service Group Leaders: Steve and Sherrie Muse (258-7167)
Peggy and Dan Schmidt (255-1885)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with “Voe” through “Win”

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 and Taking Faith Home** are available by the Activity Bags. **Blended worship music folders** (including lyrics and music) are available from the ushers. **“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.

A short Baptism class will be offered on the third Sunday in September after the 11:00 service (for about 30 minutes) for anyone interested in knowing more about the Sacrament of Baptism. Let the church office know if you will be attending one of these sessions.

The **2018 Flower Chart** is up. There are still many openings for Altar flowers, including some Sundays with only one of the two bouquets donated. You are welcome to take the flowers after the last service. Flowers not picked up by Monday morning will be taken to shut-ins. Please see the flower chart in the gathering area for more information.

FLOWER CHART OPENINGS



October 28	Both Bouquets	December 2	Both Bouquets
December 16	Both Bouquets	December 30	Both Bouquets



COMMUNION ASSISTANT OPENINGS

September 23	11:00	September 30	11:00
October 7	8:30 & 11:00	October 14	8:30 & 11:00

USHER OPENINGS

September 23	11:00	September 30	8:30 & 11:00
October 7	8:30 & 11:00	October 14	8:30 & 11:00

We are in need of volunteers to help usher! If your interested, please plan to attend one of the usher training sessions either today, September 16 or September 30th at 10:20 am. Being an usher is a great way to serve at Lord Of Life. Ushers greet fellow members and visitors, distribute worship aids, collect offering and assist with the flow of our worship services.

The Young at Hearts Reunion will be held on Tuesday, September 25th, 11:00am-1:00pm in fellowship hall. If food and fun sound good to you and you are of senior citizen age please come join us. Lunch will be provided. The group will focus on Hospitality, Simplicity, Food and FUN! We will get acquainted, enjoy lunch, and talk about what interests you for this senior group. Contact Jan Kolding, Erlys Fardal or Mavis Jundt if you have any questions. Hope to see you there!

The High School Gathering (Grades 9-12) will be held today, September 16th at 5:30 pm-8:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Please join Pastor Beth for pizza, planning and pumpkin decorating.

The Altar Guild will be holding a short meeting on Sunday, September 23 at 10:00 am. This will be held in the Sanctuary and will be to discuss a schedule for the upcoming year.

PAPAS PUMPKIN PATCH! Come join us at Papas Pumpkin Patch on September 23- at 3:00! Children 2 years and younger are free, the rest are \$5.00! Sign up at the information desk! If you need a ride, just email the church, we'll get you there! And don't forget to wear your Lord of Life T-shirt!

Lord of Life Book Club will meet Wednesday, September 19th at 4:45 pm.

The Alchemist follows the journey of an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago. Believing a recurring dream to be prophetic, he asks a Romani fortune teller in a nearby town about its meaning. The woman interprets the dream as a prophecy telling the boy that he will discover a treasure at the Egyptian pyramids. **Books are available for check out in the church office.**

Please note the church received notice that there has been an increase in the cost of altar flowers starting September 1st, 2018. If you are signed up for flowers from September 1st through December 31st the cost of one bouquet will be \$25.00; or \$50.00 for both bouquets.

Our musicians do more than sing and play instruments; they actually lead people in worshipping God through music. It's a pretty phenomenal thing to do! A huge THANKS to each of you! And, a huge WELCOME to any of you interested in using your musical talents to praise God at LOL. **Contact Marilyn Kesterke, music coordinator,** (musicmk@bis.midco.net or 701-222-1937) if you're interested in being involved.

The next Depression/Anxiety Group meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 19th at 1:00 pm.

Lord of Life has received a memorial gift of \$6,500.00 from the estate of Pete Peterson. The Peterson family gave this gift as a matching gift for the construction of a new garage with additional space. If you would like to help match the gift, please write a check to Lord of Life and note "garage" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

Come make music and friends in the choir! Join the Lord of Life Choir. This group is open to all confirmation and high school student (7th – 12th), college students, and adults. Music experience and music reading is not necessary. **The choir practices from 9:45 – 10:45 (starting September 16th) on Sundays in the choir room.** Join us for a couple of practices and try it out. We look forward to seeing you!

LOL WELCA will hold their board meeting on Monday, September 17 at 7:00 pm in the classroom by the old kitchen. All women are welcome to participate in planning of the events for the year.



Church School preschoolers need your help! Our littlest kiddos get rumbling tummies and appreciate a snack during Church School. You can help by purchasing and donating any of these items:

- Bag(s) of Animal Crackers (available at Wal-Mart and Sam's Club)
- 5 ounce plastic cups

Donations can be dropped off in the office. Our preschoolers thank you!

Join us for Adult Education: September 16 through October 14 in the conference room (by the office) for a video and conversation around the topic of *Seeing Grey in a World of Black and White* by Pastor Adam Hamilton. The accompanying book is available on Amazon and through Barnes and Noble if you would like to read it.

Mark your calendars for the 2018 CROP Walk for Hunger on October 14th. Registration will begin at 12:30 pm. Everyone will gather on the steps of the capitol at 1:30 pm. Money raised at the Bismarck/Mandan CROP Hunger walk benefits programs and people around the globe and here in the United States. The Bismarck/Mandan CROP Hunger Walk also benefits local agencies such as the Ruth Meiers Hospitality House, the Abused Adult Resource Center, AID, Inc., and the Bismarck Emergency Food Pantry since 25% of the money raised at our CROP Walk goes directly to these agencies. Contact the CROP Walk recruiter from your church or Allison Germolus at 400-0053 to get involved. Remember: **WE WALK BECAUSE THEY WALK.**

Do you like to sing? Would you like some financial help so that you can attend youth events like conferences, trips, and camp? If so, do I have a deal for you! If you are willing to attend choir practices from 9:45-10:45 on Sunday mornings AND if you are willing to sing with the choir at Sunday services, the Lord of Life choir is willing to give you a scholarship (a gift) of up to \$130 per semester (same as school semesters) depending upon how many practices and performances you attend. The money you are given is yours and yours alone. **The only catch is that you must use it for Lord of Life sponsored youth events.** If you have any questions please contact Nora Salveson (choir director).

LYO Registration is now open! Please register on the Western ND Synod website. The LYO Gathering takes place October 18-20 in Bismarck at the Ramada Hotel.

7th-9th Graders don't forget about the Camp of the Cross Fall Bash! Bash is scheduled for October 5-6. The cost is \$35.00 per person.

Bob and Becky Salveson and Judy Froseth are implementing a Thrivent Action Grant to provide a children's corner at Ministry on the Margins, giving support for families in transition. The purpose is to have a safe area for smaller children, ages 2 - 10, to play while the adults obtain food or clothing. Lord of Life, including the Church School youth, are invited to participate in this short term project by bringing a gently used (or new) toy in good condition to church by **September 23. No stuffed animals please.** These are suggested toys suitable for younger children, ages 2 - 10: Small busy boxes (for toddlers), board books, small cars, stacking toys, blocks, small push and pull toys, puzzles for children under 10 (No missing pieces please.), Legos, Lincoln Logs, Tinker Toys, puppets, sorting toys, and art supplies. A sturdy, child's size table for assembling puzzles is also needed. **If you would like to be involved in this Thrivent Action Team project on September 27th at 9:00 am, please contact Judy Froseth at 471-5388.**

Lord of Life is hosting a Trunk or Treat on October 28, 018 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Decorate your trunk and yourself and bring treats for the children. We need at least 10 vehicles to start this. Everyone is welcome to provide a trunk and to seek the treats! There is a sign-up sheet by the information desk.

The Western ND Synod office is looking for volunteers! They will be stuffing envelopes with their annual appeal letter on September 18th at 1:00 pm or on September 24th at 10:00 am. If you can help out please give Laurie Jesz a call at 223-5312.

Stewardship Bible References

Time Talent Treasure

God will reward you with much more than you give

Proverbs 3: 9-10

Malachi 3:10

Luke 6: 38

2 Corinthians 9:6

Stewardship involves the giving of our Time, our Talents, and our Treasure. We pray you will take the time to read the bible verse (s) above and discuss them with your family. As you **Know** more about God's desire for us to be good stewards, we hope you will **Grow** in your faith and be better prepared to **Go** into the world as one of his disciples.

The Stewardship Team

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., September 16

8:30 am: Worship

9:45 am: Adult Education

9:45 am: Sunday School

9:45 am: Choir Practice

11:00 am: Worship & Baptism

5:30 pm: Senior High Event with Pastor Beth

Mon., September 17

9:30 am: Piecemakers

Tues., September 18

9:00 am: Staff Meeting

9:30 am: Piecemakers

Wed., September 19

4:45 pm: Book Club

6:15 pm: Worship

7:00 pm: Church School

7:00 pm: Confirmation Large Group

Thurs., September 20

Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm

Newsletter Deadline @ 12:00 pm

Sat., September 22

8:30 am: Men's Bible Study

Sun., September 23

8:30 am: Worship & Baptism

9:45 am: Adult Education

9:45 am: Sunday School

9:45 am: Choir Practice

11:00 am: Worship