



Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 5, 2024: 8:30 am & 11:00 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.”

This Sunday’s image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John’s gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

Today’s worship service is taken from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) service book and hymnal. Please turn to Setting III, pp. 138-146, for the order of the service. The hymns are found at the back of Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and All Creation Sings (ACS).

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

Welcome and Announcements

Moment of Silence

Confession and Forgiveness, p. 94

Gathering Hymn: ACS #1038, “God, We Gather as Your People”

Greeting and Kyrie, pp. 138-139 (*Psalms 4:1 6:2, 9:13, 25:16, 27:7, 30:10, 31:9, 51:1, 86:16, 123:3*)

Hymn of Praise, “This is the Feast,” pp. 140-141 (*Revelations 5:12-13*)

Prayer of the Day

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

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above

all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Kid’s Sabbath - “Jonah”

Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation, “Alleluia,” p. 142 (*John 6:68*)

Gospel: John 15:9-17

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ¹²‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Message: Vince McCloud—Welcome House

Hymn of the Day: ACS #1062, "Build a Longer Table"
Apostles' Creed, p. 105

Prayers of Intercession, p. 143

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

Sharing of the Peace, p. 143 (*John 20:19*)

We greet one another with the words, "Peace be with you."

Offering

Offertory ELW #182, "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

Offertory Prayer

Communion

Dialogue, p. 144

Preface, p. 144

Sanctus, "Holy, Holy, Holy," p. 144

Words of Institution (*Matthew 26:26-28*)

Lord's Prayer (*contemporary version, left side*), p. 145 (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

Distribution

Time for Reflection

"Lamb of God", p. 146 (*John 1:29*)

ELW #491, "Come, Let Us Eat"

ELW #483, "Here Is Bread"

Post-Communion Blessing

Blessing of Home Communion Kits

Post-Communion Canticle, ELW #204, "Thankful Hearts and Voices
Raise" (*Psalms 9*)

Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing, p. 146

Sending Hymn: ELW #713, "O God of Every Nation"

Dismissal, p. 146

Worship Participants: Pastors: John Streccius & Beth Walch; **Assisting:** (8:30) Stephanie Hickman (11:00) Bruce Boe; **Communion Assistants:** (8:30) HELP NEEDED (11:00) HELP NEEDED; **Ushers:** (8:30) LeAna Hug, Dan & Barb Wrolstad (11:00) HELP NEEDED; **Acolyte:** (8:30) HELP NEEDED (11:00) HELP NEEDED; **Song Leader:** Ruby Altringer; **Pianist:** Becky Salveson; **May Altar Guild:** Barb Koch, Diane Chepulis, Deb Burke, Justine Bennes.

Prayers at Lord of Life: Shirley O'Brien, Coralyn Hoovestol, Kelli Mahlum, Grant Geffre, Ruth Ann Rexine, Edna Mae Erickson, Ellen Bartz, Pat Hellman, Susan Francis, Mavis Jundt, Betty Dendinger, Todd Asendorf, Kylah Anderson, Matt Olson, Jerry McLachlan, Scott Berry, Nathan Berndt, Aldeen Klain, Emmett Pratt, Emma Seibel, Duane Barry, Troy Steele, Barry Kirsch, Sandi Papke.

Flowers are given today by: Art Remmich and family in memory of Mary Anne Remmich.

Stewardship Info: Attendance – Sun. (4-28): 140 **Wed.** (5-1): 86

Offering: General Plate Offering: \$2,985.00 General Online Giving: \$2,865.31

March expenses: \$51,157.23 **March income:** \$74,122.85

Annual expenses through March: \$192,167.88

Annual income through March: \$180,486.60

May Service Group Leaders: Byron & Justine Bennes (471-0615)

Volunteers: Members with last names starting with "Blo" through "Crai"

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.

Ushers/Greeters and Communion Assistants are always needed. Please check the sign up sheets for openings at the Information Desk.

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.



Altar Bouquet Donations: Thank you for your donations to date, the next available Sundays are June 30, July 7, July 14 and August 4. Cost is \$25.00/bouquet. The sign-up sheet can be located at the Information Desk. **Please note Altar Flowers on check memo line.

Health Kits: Thank you to all who donated items for the health kits. We will be packing kits Thursday, May 9 at 1:00 pm. Any extra hands would be greatly appreciated!

Guest Preachers for the month of May: Each Sunday & Wednesday of May we will have guest preachers from our ministry partners here in Bismarck. Please come and worship with us. May 5 & 8 - Vince McCloud, Executive Director of the Welcome House, May 12 & 15 - Deacon Janie Hague, Executive Director of Camp of the Cross, May 19 & 22 - Sister Kathleen Atkinson, Executive Director of Ministry on the Margins.

Lord of Life is scheduled to help Heaven's Helpers Soup Café on May 27. Shifts are two hours in length from 8 AM through 5:30 PM. Just log 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 and a Lord of Life shirt if you have one.

Spring Clean up at Lord of Life will be on Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm. We will gather to clean up the church grounds by raking, trimming trees and filling a dumpster with all the debris winter brings. Any extra help will be greatly appreciated as many hands make lighter work for all!! Please bring gloves, rakes etc.

SAVE THE DATE! May 30 will be our Lord of Life outing with the Larks baseball team. Look for more information and sign up in May. The Larks will be playing at 6:30 pm against the Duluth Huskies. A Larks hat, food for the first three innings and a game are all included. Join the fun!

Quilt Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 12th. Volunteers will be needed to place quilts on the pews Wednesday, May 8th at 9:30 am and again on Monday, May 13th at 9:30 am to help pack quilts for shipping.

The Senior Class of 2024 will be recognized during worship on Sunday, May 19 at 8:30 am. Congratulations to Kirna Anderson, Avery Brousseau, Kendra Dockter, Taylor Gabbert, Kaylee Johnson, James Melberg, Cade Pittenger, Maren Swenson, Jenica Twete, and Ava Vetter. Best wishes to all!

Pastor Beth Walch is gone on sabbatical through June 24. If you have an emergency or need pastoral assistance during this time, please contact Pastor John Streccius or the church office. Prayers to Pastor Beth as she takes this time for spiritual, physical, emotional, and relational renewal.

30th Annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive: The National Association of Letter Carriers will hold its 30th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 11. Letter carriers will be collecting nonperishable food items on their routes that day. The collected food helps to supply local food pantries and United Way's Backpack Program, to ensure local children are fed over the weekends and when school is out of session. We are looking for volunteers to help collect and sort food that day. If you, your family, or organization can help collect or sort food, we need volunteers from 11:00am - 1pm, 1pm - 3:30 pm & 3:30 pm - 6 pm Saturday. Sorting will take place at the post office at 403 Airport Road in Bismarck. If you are only available for one hour that day, please still sign up and come on down to the Post Office. To sign-up, please pick your desired shift and respond at <https://www.volunteerbisman.com> Last year 8,915 pounds of nonperishable food was distributed to 11 agencies, food pantries, and the United Way Backpack Program to Stamp Out Hunger in our community. Questions, please call 701-255-3601.

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., May 5

8:30 am: Worship—Guest Preacher—Vince McCloud with Welcome House
9:45 am: Church School Party
11:00 am: Worship—Guest Preacher—Vince McCloud with Welcome House

Mon., May 6

11:30 am: PEO Meeting
2:00 pm: Cozy Comfort
5:30 pm: Youth Team Meeting
6:30 pm: Piecemakers

Tues., May 7

9:30 am: Piecemakers
10:00 am: Staff Meeting
5:00 pm: Nominations Team Meeting
5:00 pm: Worship Team Meeting
5:30 pm: Property Team Meeting
6:00 pm: CCO Team Meeting
7:00 pm: Education Team Meeting
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wed., May 8

3:30 pm: Planning
6:15 pm: Worship

Thurs., May 9

Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm

8:30 am: Centering Prayer
9:30 am: Java with John
1:00 pm: Packing Health Kits

Fri., May 10

10:00 am: Coffee with Memory Caregivers

Sat., May 11

5:00 pm: Boy Scout Court of Honor in F.H.

Sun., May 12

Quilt Sunday

8:30 am: Worship
11:00 am: Worship

Thank you for your financial offerings to the ministry of Lord of Life Lutheran Church. If you would like to give now using your smartphone, just take a picture of the QR code and you will be taken to the secure church website for giving.

