



# 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2020

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

(907) 488-6720 www.lordoflifeak.com

Welcome to Worship! We gather on the lawn (6 feet between families and wear masks until worship starts) **OR** in vehicles tuned to radio station 89.5 FM. Words in **bold** are said together.

## **GATHER** (Welcome!)

### *Confession and Forgiveness*

Invitation to confession and time for private confession.

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **C: Amen.**

L: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. (pause for silent confession) Reconciling God, **C: we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

L: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

### *Gathering Hymn - We Sing to You, Oh God (v. 1, 3, 4)*

1. We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,  
Let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.  
To you, O God, let songs be raised, in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.
3. You bear us through the world, an eagle to its young:  
You rise up on your wings and bear us toward the sun.  
We ride the vaults of light and air and trust in your unfailing care.
4. O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings,  
the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring.  
Your word is true, your way is just, you are the God in whom we trust.

### *Prayer of the Day*

**O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **WORD**

### Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to

Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. <sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 138

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;  
<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.  
<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.  
<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.  
<sup>5</sup>They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.  
<sup>6</sup>For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.  
<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.  
<sup>8</sup>The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

### Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### Matthew 16:13-20

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup>And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup>He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he

was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### *Children's Message*

#### *Sermon*

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

#### *Hymn of the Day – Built on a Rock (v. 1, 3, 5)*

1. Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;  
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling -  
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.
3. Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;  
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.  
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst will show his grace,  
blessings upon them bestowing.
5. Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing:  
"I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see;  
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

#### *Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **MEAL**

*Prayers of God's People*--Each petition ends "Lord in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

#### *Offering*

- ◇ By mail: Lord of Life Lutheran, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ "Giving" Tab on our website: [lordoflifeak.com](http://lordoflifeak.com) or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the easy instructions.



#### *Offering Hymn - Faith of Our Fathers (v. 1, 2, 4)*

1. Faith of our fathers, living still, in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;  
oh, how our hearts beat high with joy whene'er we hear that glorious Word!  
Faith of our fathers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death.
2. Faith of our mothers, daring faith, your work for Christ is love revealed,  
spreading God's word from pole to pole, making love known and freedom real.  
Faith of our mothers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death.

3. Faith born of God, oh, call us yet, bind us with all who follow you,  
sharing the struggle of your cross until the world is made anew.  
Faith born of God, O living faith, we will be true to you till death.

**Offering Prayer: God of all goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread; these are the signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.**

*Communion:* We will take communion during the Words of Institution, please listen for those instructions.

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray,

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## SEND

### *Announcements*

Help restock the Fairbanks Food Bank this month by adding donations to the red wagon on the lawn before or after worship. During the week, food items can be left on the bench near the church entrance. If you deliver directly to the Food Bank, be sure to mention Lord of Life—we've collected 117 lbs so far – the goal is 500 lbs!

Want to serve in worship or with a special project? Contact the church office: 488-6720 or office@lordoflifeak.com and let us know what you'd like to do!

September 13 is our national day of service, "God's Work. Our Hands." We have a few projects lined up to serve our community:

- \* highway clean-up from our church to Wendy's
- \* wood shed: move dry wood to one side, cut and split donated wood and stack in the shed

### *Sending Hymn - How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (v. 1-3)*

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away all fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole and calms the heart's unrest;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul and to the weary, rest.
3. Dear name! The rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place;  
my never failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace.

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### *Blessing (from Romans 8:38-39) and Dismissal*

L: Go in peace, Christ is with you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### ***Special Thanks to...***

*Worship Set-up hands:* Fran and Nancy

*Worship Leaders:* Pianist, Carol Hughes; Reader, Nancy Uptgraft; Sound, Jason Kempthorne;  
Video, ??