



9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK
(907) 488-6720 www.lordoflifeak.com

Assistant Minister = Blue

Words in **bold** are said together.

Welcome

Welcome Song - TBD

Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose compassion endures forever. C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin to God. (pour water into font/silence for reflection)

L: Compassionate God, C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

L: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Gathering Song – Open the Eyes of My Heart

*Refrain: Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You (2x)*

*Verse: To see You high and lifted up shinin' in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy.*

Repeat Refrain (2x) and Verse (2x)

Ending: Holy, holy, holy... holy, holy, holy... holy, holy, holy, I want to see you. (repeat)

Scripture Readings

1 Kings 3:5-12 p. 266

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great

people of yours?" ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136 p. 496

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

¹³⁰ The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

¹³¹ With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments.

¹³² Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.

¹³³ Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.

¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.

¹³⁵ Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.

Romans 8:26-39 p. 919

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Gospel Acclamation (sung) p. 102, setting 1

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

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 p. 795

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." ³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all

that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

David Ingram

Song of the Day – Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Refrain: My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns: unending love, amazing grace.

3. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
4. The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me here below will be forever mine. *Refrain x2.*

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.

Prayers of God's People

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

Sharing the Peace – L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

Offering

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ Online: "giving" tab at www.lordoflifeak.com/giving or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



Offering Song – Give Thanks (lyrics on screen)

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving p. 107

Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108

Christ's Words of Institution

Invitation to Communion (and Communion)

L: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Announcements [intro by asst min]

- Stay for cake after worship (Jo Small's farewell)!
- New church mailboxes are assigned – check the posted directory
- Coming up: Sept 13 GWOH Sunday

Closing Song – Jesus, Lover of My Soul (lyrics on screen)

Blessing

L: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. C: Amen.

Dismissal

L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! C: Thanks be to God.

Special Thanks to...

Assistant Minister, Nancy Uptgraft
PowerPoint,
Ushers,
Greeters,
Fellowship,

Reader, Nancy Uptgraft
Video, Sam Aleshire
Acolyte, Jeremiah Castor
Communion Prep, Nancy Uptgraft

Birthdays & Anniversaries...

7-27 Margi Ungrodt & Curt Renner
7-30 Amy Ingram
8-1 Whittaker Mills
8-1 Penny & John Warnke

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