



# 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*September 7, 2025*

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

(907) 488-6720 [www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

*Assistant Minister = Blue*

*Welcome!* Words in **bold** are said together.

Children are always welcome - they worship God too! Cloth bags with quiet activities are by the stairs to keep them engaged during worship. Our nursery is at the bottom of the stairs, to the left.

## *The Lord's Prayer*

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## *Confession and Forgiveness*

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.*

**Congregation: Amen.**

*L: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
(silence for reflection)*

*L: Merciful and loving God, C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.*

*L: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven! C: Amen.*

## *Gathering Hymn – O Master, Let Me Walk #818*

1. Master, let me walk with you in lowly paths of service true;  
tell me your secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
3. Teach me your patience; share with me a closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.
4. In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broad'ning way,  
in peace that only you can give; with you, O Master, let me live.

*Prayer of the Day – Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works we may glorify your holy name; and by your mercy, bring*

**us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Scripture Readings*

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

p. 163

<sup>15</sup> "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

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

Psalms 1

p. 424

<sup>1</sup> Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers, <sup>2</sup> but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

<sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, <sup>6</sup> for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Philemon 1-21

p. 970

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup> to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup> I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. <sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, <sup>9</sup> yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup> I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup> I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your

partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

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

*Gospel Acclamation (sung) p. 102, setting 1*

\*Please stand for the reading of the gospel.

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

Luke 14:25-33 p. 850

<sup>25</sup> Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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

*Children's Message*

*Sermon*

David Ingram

*Hymn of the Day – O Jesus, I Have Promised #810*

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
remain forever near me, my master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
2. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;  
but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.
3. Oh, let me hear you speaking, in accents clear and still  
above the storms of passion, that murmurs of self-will.  
Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you  
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

## *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](http://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 Hymn – Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways #772*

1. Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!  
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
2. Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;  
let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.
3. Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;  
and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand'ring sheep.
4. Make me to walk in your commands, 'tis a delightful road;  
nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.

## *Offering Prayer*

**Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*The Great Thanksgiving p. 107*

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108*

*Christ's Words of Institution and Communion*

*Invitation to Communion*

*L: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.*

### *Post Communion Prayer*

*L: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.*

**C: Amen.**

### *Announcements*

- Thursday: School Lunch Prep
- Coming up: 9-12/13 WELCA convention & retreat in Anchorage; 9-14 Winter Clean-Up Day
- Summer devotional books in the book rack near the church offices 😊

### *Sending Hymn – Lead Me, Guide Me #768*

*Refrain:* Lead me, guide me, along the way; for if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain.*
2. Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain.*
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy light to see.  
Lord, just always let me thy servant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain.*

### *Blessing*

*L: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever. C: Amen.*

### *Dismissal*

*L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart. C: Thanks be to God.*

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

Assistant Minister,  
PowerPoint,  
Usher(s),  
Communion Prep,  
Fellowship,

Reader,  
Video, Sam Aleshire  
Acolyte,  
Greeter(s), Susan McMahon & Bill Montgrain

### ***Birthdays & Anniversaries...***

9-10 Robert Peterson