

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

A Serving Community

God's work, our hands!

Rev. Rebecca Zielke, Pastor

Tim L. Elder, CAGO, Director of Music

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 18, 2026

10:15 a.m.



In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

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Welcome to Lord of Life!

Your presence in our midst is a blessing to us. We hope you find our worship service a prayerful and meaningful experience.

Visitors

If you are visiting with us this weekend, please consider signing our guest book located in our Gathering Space. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Holy Communion

All are welcome to partake in Communion regardless of Christian denomination. Please follow the usher's direction to come forward to receive the bread from the Pastor and take a glass of wine from the tray. Dispose of the cup in the basket provided on the altar railing and return to your seat by the side aisle. Gluten free hosts are available upon request.

Worship notes

"ELW" refers to our hymnbook "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" which is the red hymnbook in the pew racks. Other hymns that may be included in our worship service, that do not appear in ELW, will be directly printed into the bulletin.

All items in **bold** print are responses spoken by the assembly.

Worship bulletin key: P = Pastor, L = Lector, C = Congregation.

Any other specific directions are notated in **red** throughout the bulletin.

The offering plate is located as you enter the worship space.

Restrooms

There are two sets of restrooms located in our building. The first, and closest, are found by exiting the sanctuary and turning to your right, down the hallway toward the coat room, and then turning right once again.

The second set, is located by exiting the sanctuary, turning right down the hallway toward the coat room and then turning left. Walk all the way down to the end of the hallway and they are located on your left.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Announcements

Prelude

Pastorale

Charles

Wesley

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

C **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

C Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**
Amen.

- P Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
- C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

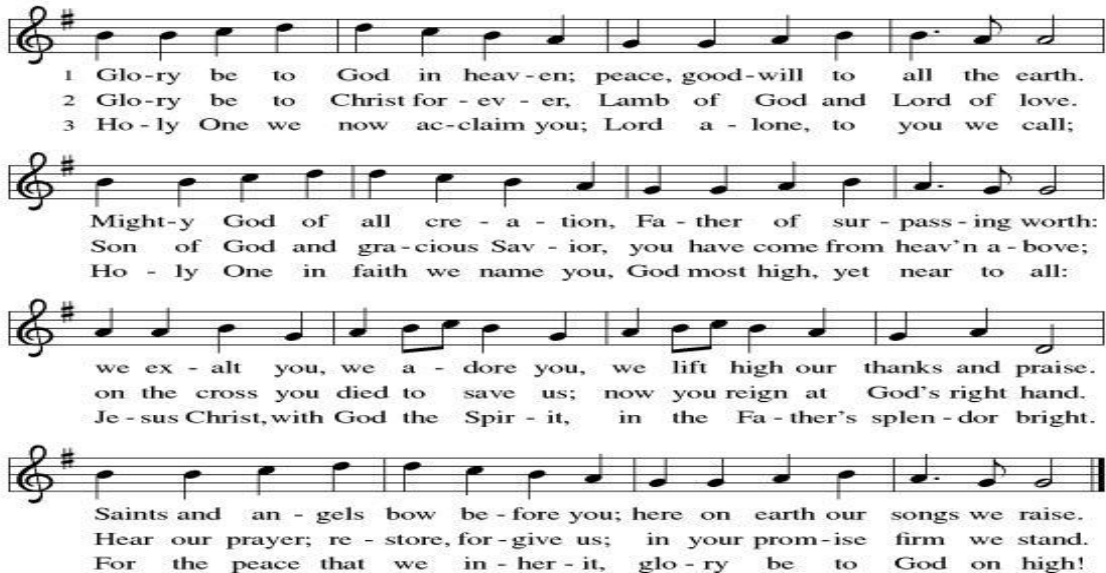
You Servants of God

ELW 825

Greeting

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

Glory to God



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;

Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:

we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.

Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray,
Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live
in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you,
let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Please be seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;

³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
 and Israel my chosen,
 I call you by your name;
 I give you a title, though you do not know me.

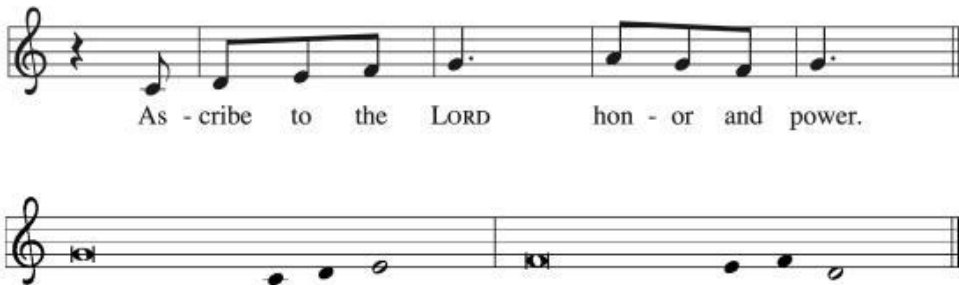
⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
 besides me there is no god.
 I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
 and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
 I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷ I form light and create darkness,
 I make weal and create woe;
 I the LORD do all these things.

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

Psalm 96:1-13



¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song;
 sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.

³ Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods. R**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD. R**

⁹ Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge
the peo- | ples with equity."**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is
therein.

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O
LORD,
for you come to | judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth. **R**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then

he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.”²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

P The gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children’s Message

Sermon

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day We Give Thee But Thine Own ELW 686

Apostles’ 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 life
everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

P Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world

A brief silence.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

C your mercy is great.

P We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

C your mercy is great.

P We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

C your mercy is great.

P We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering especially those we name before you now...

Delores Bailey, Laurel Froelich, Dr. Ronald Gould, Chris Hunnicutt, Michael Jacques, Sean Kelly, Devon Kirtley, Todd Kirtley, Tami Kuhlmann, George Lange, Diane Malloy, Vangie McDorman, Craig Miller, Marge Pancher, Frank Scott, Bob Titus, David Titus, Pearl Torrence, Debbie Williams, and the family of Staci Thomas.

(The names on the prayer list are updated every 30 days. If you wish to continue to have someone on the list, please contact the office.)

Hear us, O God.

C your mercy is great.

P We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church (*congregational ministries may be named*). Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

C **your mercy is great.**

P We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you.
Hear us, O God.

C **your mercy is great.**

P Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

The offering plate is located on the table as you enter/exit the worship space.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Response

In the Singing

ELW 466

Please stand.

Offering Prayer

P Let us pray,
God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C **Amen.**

Dialogue

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

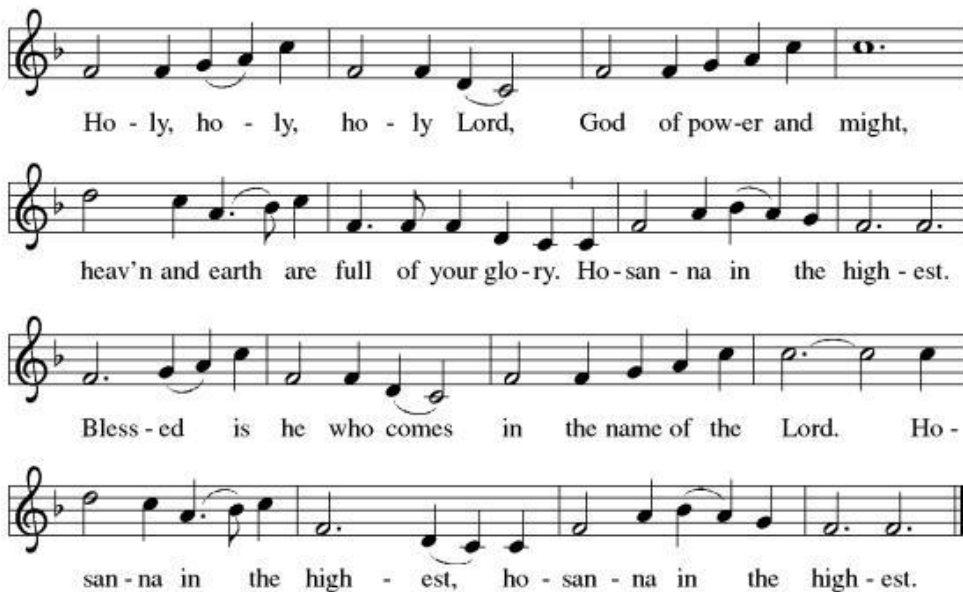
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, Holy,



Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent us to Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks: broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

C Amen

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Invitation to Communion

P Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Please be seated

Communion

Communion Distribution Bread of Life from Heaven ELW 474
Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal ELW 464

Anthem Take My Life, That I May Be arr. Mark Sedio

Please stand

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you
 in his grace.

C **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

P Let us pray,
 Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and
 abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy
 world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
 following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Sending Song

God of Grace and God of Glory

ELW 705

Blessing

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Dismissal

P Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated. It is our tradition here at Lord of Life to be seated during the postlude. If it is your desire to leave, please do so quietly. Thank you.

Postlude

Cwm Rhondda (ELW 705)

Paul Manz

Scan for Online Giving



Scan for October Calendar



Weekly Readings October 19 through October 25

Mon 10/19	Tues 10/20	Wed 10/21	Thurs 10/22	Fri 10/23	Sat 10/24
Psalm 98	Psalm 98	Psalm 98	Psalm 1	Psalm1	Psalm1
Daniel 3:1-18	Daniel 3: 1-18	Daniel 6: 1-28	Numbers 5: 5-10	Deuteronomy 9: 25-10:5	Proverbs 24: 23-34
Revelation 18: 1-10, 19-20	Revelation 18: 21-24	Matthew 17: 22-27	Titus 1:5-10	Deuteronomy 9:25-10:5	John 5:39-47

Those serving in worship in October

	10/04	10/11	10/18	10/25
Greeter/Usher	Bob Soles	Jeff Dombroski	Phyllis Ruse	Gabe West
Lector	Chris Eash	Judy McCartney	Pastor Mark Williams	Norma Thomas
Counters	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff	Tom Drotleff
Altar Guild	Diana Williams	Diana Williams	Norma Thomas	Norma Thomas
Crucifer				
Acolyte				

This Week at Lord of Life

<u>Sunday</u>	9:30 a.m.	Kids Time
	9:30 a.m.	Coffee and Conversation
	10:15 a.m.	Worship
<u>Monday</u>	6:30 p.m.	Madrigal Group
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
<u>Tuesday</u>	10:30 a.m.	Life Links
	1:00 p.m.	GriefShare
	7:00 p.m.	Scouts
<u>Wednesday</u>	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
<u>Thursday</u>	3-6 pm	Pasta Drive Thru
<u>Friday</u>	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
<u>Saturday</u>	5:00 p.m.	Saturday Worship

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DRIVE-THRU SPAGHETTI



8

WELCA

Shepherd of the Valley

BINGO



Wednesday, November 4, 2:00pm

Please consider donating Bingo prizes for the winning residents – Dollar Tree, Dollar General, Family Dollar. Lists of prizes requested are available in the Narthex and will be in the November Servant. Thank You!

Cluster-Wide study on “Faith and Civic Life” Pastor Becky will be leading a study on the social statement approved by the 2025 Church-wide Assembly called “Faith and Civic Life,” on Monday, October 19, from 6:00-7:30pm, in the Adult Sunday School Room. The study will be open to all Mahoning County Lutheran Cluster Churches. Keep an *eye (or two) open* for a sign-up sheet!

Wednesday Bible Study (10:30 am) Sept 23rd-Oct 21st

Pastor Becky leads a study on the challenging parables of Jesus from Matthew’s Gospel that we will be hearing in worship during these fall months

GriefShare Grief Support Group The next session of our GriefShare group started Tuesday, September 15. There are thirteen sessions, and all are on Tuesdays, from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Please register for the group at [GriefShare.org](https://www.GriefShare.org)
