



**LORD of LOVE**  
*Lutheran Church*

## **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**



**Planted and Fruitful because of the Word**



**LORD of LOVE**  
*Lutheran Church*

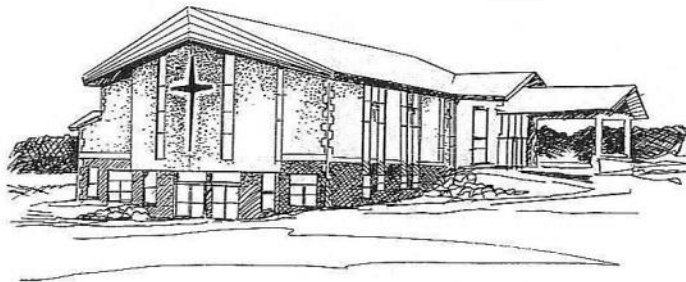
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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - ***Christ's Love, Our Calling.***

**“I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’”**

**Psalm 122:1**



*Today's service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament.  
Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.*

# Lord of Love Lutheran Church

July 16, 2023

## DIVINE SERVICE II

OPENING HYMN (CW 283)

Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening



1 Speak, O Sav - ior; I am lis - t'ning, As a ser - vant  
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near you And to lis - ten  
3 Lord, your words are wa - ters liv - ing Where I quench my  
4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; Let your words in



to his lord. Let me show re - spect and hon - or  
to your voice! Let me ev - er love and fear you;  
thirst - y needs. Lord, your words are bread life - giv - ing;  
me take root. May your Spir - it e'er be near me



To your ho - ly, pre - cious Word, That each day, my  
Let your Word still be my choice. Man - y hard - ened  
On your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, your words will  
That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly



whole life through, I may serve and fol - low  
sin - ners, Lord, Flee in ter - ror at your  
be my light Through death's cold and drear - y  
sing your praise, From my heart glad an - thems



you. Let your Word e'er be my plea - sure  
Word, But to all who feel sin's bur - den  
night; Yes, they are my sword pre - vail - ing  
raise, Till my high - est praise is giv - en



And my heart's most pre - cious trea - sure.  
You give peace and words of par - don.  
And my cup of joy un - fail - ing.  
In the end - less joy of heav - en.



## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*STAND*

### INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

### CONFESSION

**M:** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C:** **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.  
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,  
For sins of habit and sins of choice,  
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,  
You should cast me away from your presence forever.  
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

### ABSOLUTION

**M:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**LORD, HAVE MERCY**

*Mark 10:47*

*Kyrie*

**M:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**M:** For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C:** **Christ, have mercy.**

**M:** For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C:** **Lord, have mercy.**

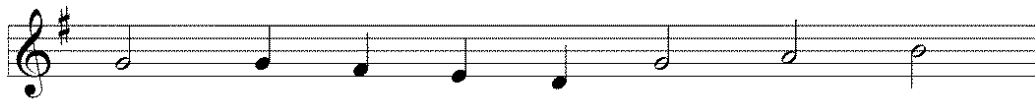
**M:** Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

**C:** **Amen.**

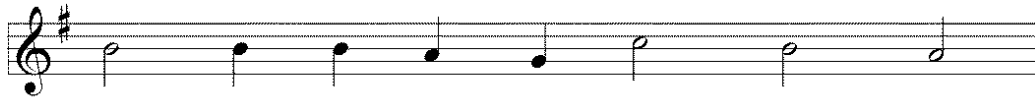
# GLORY BE TO GOD

Luke 2:14

*Gloria in Excelsis*



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!  
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,  
3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.  
4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;



Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;  
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,  
You take all hu - man sin a - way.  
The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.



We praise you for your peace and grace,  
For all, O Fath - er, you have done  
Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;  
We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:



Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.  
Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.  
From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.  
"All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.



## THE WORD

### SALUTATION

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your Word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy and to bring forth fruits in faith and hope and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55:6-11

*<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found! Call on him while he is near! <sup>7</sup> Let the wicked man abandon his way. Let an evil man abandon his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will show him mercy. Let him turn to our God, because he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> Certainly my plans are not your plans, and your ways are not my ways, declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup> Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my plans are higher than your plans. <sup>10</sup> Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and do not return there unless they first water the earth, make it give birth, and cause it to sprout, so that it gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup> in the same way my word that goes out from my mouth will not return to me empty. Rather, it will accomplish whatever I please, and it will succeed in the purpose for which I sent it.*

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 65

### *Refrain*

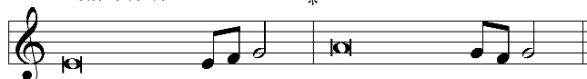


The earth is full of the good-ness of



God, the good-ness of our God.

### *Psalm tone*



Praise awaits you, O God,\*  
you call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it;\*  
you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

The streams of God are filled with water\*  
to provide the people with grain.

### *Refrain*

You crown the year with your bounty,\*  
and your carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the desert overflow;\*  
the hills are clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain;\*  
they shout for joy and sing.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### *Refrain*



## SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 3:5-11

*<sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? They are ministers through whom you believed, and each served as the Lord gave him his role. <sup>6</sup> I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. <sup>7</sup> So then, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but it is God who causes the growth. <sup>8</sup> The one who plants and the one who waters are united, and each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. <sup>9</sup> For God is the one whom we serve as coworkers, and you are God's field, God's building. <sup>10</sup> In keeping with the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. But let each person be careful how he builds on it. <sup>11</sup> In fact, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**M:** Alleluia. My word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia.

STAND

## GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

*That same day Jesus left the house and was sitting by the sea. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd gathered around him. So he stepped into a boat and sat down, while all the people stood on the shore. <sup>3</sup> He told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen, a sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it. <sup>5</sup> Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil. Immediately the seed sprang up, because the soil was not deep. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, the seed was scorched. Because it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns. The thorns grew up and choked it. <sup>8</sup> But some seed fell on good ground and produced grain: some one hundred times, some sixty, and some thirty times more than was sown. <sup>9</sup> Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear." ... <sup>18</sup> "So listen carefully to the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the Evil One comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the seed that was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup> The seed that was sown on rocky ground is the person who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup> yet he is not deeply rooted and does not endure. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup> The seed that was sown among the thorns is the one who hears the word, but the*

worry of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it produces no fruit.<sup>23</sup> But the seed that was sown on the good ground is the one who continues to hear and understand the word. Indeed he continues to produce fruit: some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty times more than was sown.”

HYMN (CW 324)

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al - might - y God, your Word is cast Like  
 2 Let not the foe of Christ and man This  
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The  
 4 When - e'er the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of  
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in  
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a  
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And right - eous fruits a - bound.  
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.  
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.  
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, abr., alt.  
 Tune: DUNDEE (CM) *The CL Psalms of David*, Edinburgh, 1615.

SERMON

Isaiah 55:6-11

**Get What You Were Not Looking For**

1. Your ways will never produce
2. His ways will never fail to produce

*STAND*

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## **GATHERING OF THE THANK-OFFERING**

*While the offering is being collected, please sign, pass, and return the  
Friendship Register. Thank you!*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For repentance, that by every thorn and briar, God would warn us of sin and discipline us against temptation, so that we would place all trust in his promise of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For devotion to the Holy Word, which God sends as abundantly as rain on the earth, that we may never take it for granted but seek its help and refreshment in every circumstance, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For an abundant harvest of believers, that God would bless pastors and missionaries as they sow his Word to the nations, preparing the hearts of all who hear to believe and yield abundant fruit, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For parents, that the Lord would bless them with faithfulness as they plant his Word into their children; and for children, that by his Word the Lord would protect them amid the cares and troubles of this world, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For seasonable weather and bountiful harvest, that according to our Creator's Word, he would send rain on the earth to make it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those suffering from illnesses of body or mind, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] that the Lord would give them healing, comfort them with his loving presence, grant them patience to endure suffering and assure them always of the glory of Christ that awaits them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who partake of the Holy Communion, that God would sustain his children in repentance and faith to receive Christ's body and blood for life and salvation, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, your Spirit calls us by the Gospel to the new life of faith. We praise you and acknowledge you as our Lord. Deliver us from the devil's temptations, that we may live under you and serve you in righteousness, innocence and blessedness; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



## THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is good and right so to do.**

**M:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

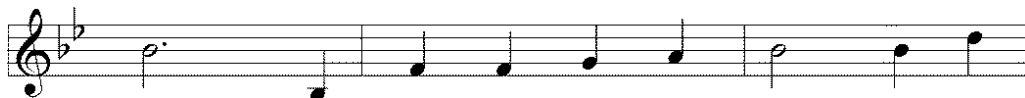
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

## Sanctus

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBER



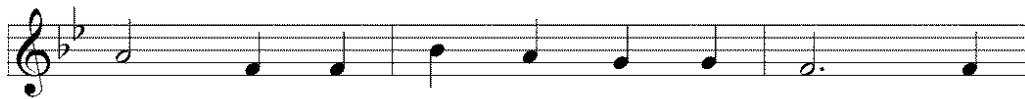
1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is



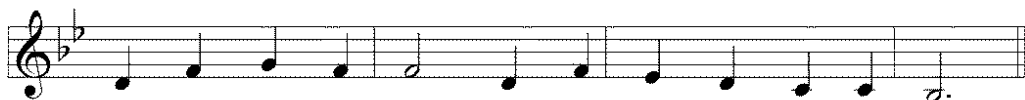
might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In  
he Who in God's name is com - ing To



count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and  
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -



save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And  
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -



in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.  
liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**M:** Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**C:** Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C:** **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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Matthew 26:26-28*  
*1 Corinthians 11:24,25*

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** Amen.

# LAMB OF GOD

*Agnus Dei*

*John 1:29*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



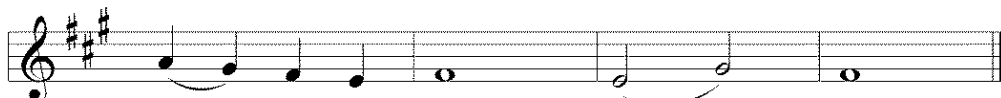
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

*BE SEATED*

## DISTRIBUTION

*In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to our pastor. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with our pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.*



# DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CWS 735)

# Speak, O Lord



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re -  
 2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly  
 3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word.  
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.  
 grasp the heights of your plans for us.



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and  
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes In the  
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, That will



fash - ion us in your like - ness That the  
 ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our  
 e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to-day In our acts of  
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic  
 grace we'll stand on your pro - mis-es, And by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -  
 love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can  
 walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your



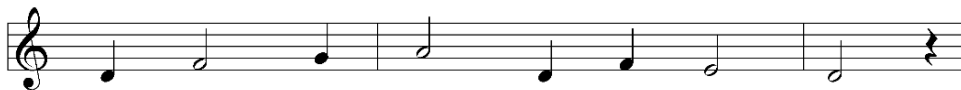
fill in us All your pur - pos-es for your  
 nev - er fail, Let their truth pre-vail o - ver  
 Church is built And you fill the earth with your



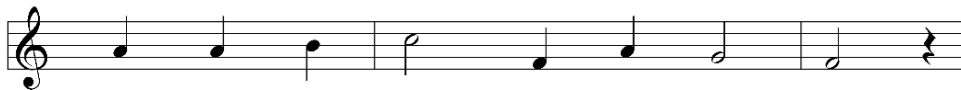
glo - ry.  
 un - be - lief.  
 glo - ry.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 544)

Preach You the Word



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home  
 2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task  
 3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love  
 4 Though some be snatched and some be scorched  
 5 Preach you the Word and plant it home



To those who like or like it not,  
 Your ser - vant bids us un - der - take:  
 Scat - ters a - broad the good - ly seed,  
 And some be choked and mat - ted flat,  
 And nev - er faint; the Har - vest - Lord



The Word that shall en - dure and stand  
 To preach your Word and nev - er ask  
 In - tent a - lone that there may be  
 The sow - er sows; his heart cries out,  
 Who gave the sow - er seed to sow



When flow'rs and mor - tals are for - got.  
 What pride - ful prof - it it may make.  
 The whole - some loaves that peo - ple need.  
 "Oh, what of that, and what of that?"  
 Will watch and tend his plant - ed Word.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. © 1971 Peter Franzmann. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Tune: O HEILAND, REISS DIE HIMMEL AUF (LM) *Rheinfelsisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch*, Augsburg, 1666.

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON

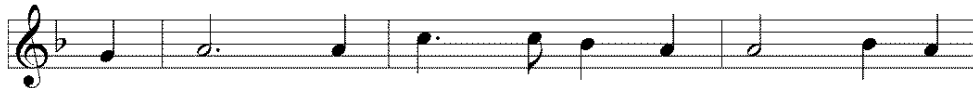
Luke 2:29-32

Nunc Dimittis

Tune: ANGEL'S STORY



1 O Lord, now let your serv - ant De - part in peace,  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to



as - sured: For I have seen your prom - ised In -  
the Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For -



car - nate, sav - ing Word— A Light that will en -  
ev - er three in one; For as in the be -



light - en All gloom where Gen - tiles dwell; The bril - liant,  
gin - ning, Is now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une



crown - ing glo - ry Of those in Is - ra - el!  
name re - sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

**M:** We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

# BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C:** Amen.

*BE SEATED*

## CLOSING HYMN (CW 322)

## On What Has Now Been Sown



1 On what has now been sown Your bless - ing, Lord, be -  
2 To you our wants are known; From you are all our  
3 Oh, grant that each of us Now met be - fore you



stow; The pow'r is yours a - lone To make it  
pow'rs. Ac - cept what is your own And par - don  
here May meet to - geth - er thus When you and



spring and grow. O Lord, in grace the har - vest  
what is ours. Our prais - es, Lord, and prayers re -  
yours ap - pear And fol - low you to heav'n, our



raise And you a - lone shall have the praise!  
ceive And to your Word a bless - ing give.  
home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, abr., adapt., alt.  
Tune: DARWALL'S 148TH (66 66 88) John Darwall, 1731–89.

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“Speak, O Lord” text and tune Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © Thank you Music. CCLI License #2355283.  
Psalm 65. Refrain Tune: Marty Haugen. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



**LORD** *of* **LOVE**  
*Lutheran Church*

### **Personal Prayer before Communion:**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

### **Personal Prayer after Communion:**

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

# Bible Studies this week

Sunday 8:00 am: Led by Pr. Jerry Ewings, *sanctuary*

Tuesday 9:00 am: Song of Songs, *downstairs*

No Bible study this Wednesday and Thursday evening. Studies resume next week.

Friday 6:00 am: Matthew

Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45. *DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)*

## STRATEGIC MINISTRY PLAN



### STRATEGIC MINISTRY PLAN

July 2023

#### STRATEGIC MINISTRY PLAN

I will be honest with you. The words "strategic plan" typically do not rise as a good remedy for inactivity. Strategic plans are typically overly and "heavy" and overly aggressive. Strategic plans were born of corporate and governmental life. Strategic planning, however, is a tool that will give them a competitive edge in the market, an aggressive plan that is clearly and concisely written. It is better to have a good strategic plan written in a business "style" and "practice" in the marketplace. I am fighting a system as I write this.

But as you hold a year based mission plan, it makes sense to add the addition of one. This word "Strategy" when you hold a year based mission plan, it is the result of discussion and prayer and prayer that have formed an "strategy." "Strategy" means "to win." We exist to do "strategy." We exist to serve people with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

It is ministry we do together on the body of Christ. Just as a body has many parts that must all work together to allow the body of Christ to work together to do ministry. We are to be Christ's hands and feet and voice in the world. We must use our varied gifts in coordination, effort and movement, on the body where diversity and individuality do you best. This document, you might ask yourself, "What strategy gifts do I have in this plan?" Everyone has gifts that can be deployed in the Kingdom. Everyone!

Finally, when you hold in your hands a "plan" it concerns the future. So we can only hold this up to the Lord of the Church who loved the Church and gave himself up for her, and himself up "to redeem her."

With that, we thank all who hold a hand in crafting this plan and we commend to you the newly revised Strategic Ministry Plan of Lord of Love.

To God be the glory!  
Pastor Jon Swick  
Pastor Janet Swick

The "Strategic Ministry Plan" is completed and ready for your consideration! Many of your fellow members spent many hours preparing this look into the future of our congregation. They carefully assessed every area of ministry we carry out at Lord of Love, evaluating both our strengths and our weaknesses. They discussed, at great length, how each area might be improved. Most importantly, they made recommendations by which we can build on our strengths and shore up our weaknesses. In this way we can better proclaim the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. The "Strategic Ministry Plan" will be taken up at the July 23 Voters' Meeting. Please pick up your copy today.



Lord of Love is hosting a blood drive this **Tuesday July 18 from 12 – 5 pm**. Blood donors are encouraged to make an appointment. To see the available times, use the link below or go to our website. You can also contact the church office and Jen can assist in setting up a time.

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Love>

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday July 23, 10:30 am

Items on the agenda include:

- Strategic Ministry Plan
- Approving the 2023 – 2024 budget



**Sunday July 16: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship Service 9:00 am with Holy Communion**

**8:00 am: Adult Bible Study, sanctuary**

- Pastor Jerry Ewings
- Pianist: Kristin Huebner
- Councilmen/elder: Mike Wilson
- Ushers 9:00 am: Sef Fox, Jack Holzman, Ben Olson and Dave Olson
- Counters: Kim Bauer and Wayne Kaalberg
- Refreshments: The Crary Family
- Altar Guild: Karie Ehlenbach                      · AV & Recording: Julie Doyle

**Sunday July 23: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship Service 9:00 am with Holy Communion**

**8:00 – 8:45 am: Bible Study, sanctuary**

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman/Elder: Mike Wilson
- Ushers: Bob Degnan, Gene Freund, Kayden Zech and Kourtney Zech
- Counters: Donna Cotter and Roger LaGrange
- Refreshments: *Volunteers needed*
- Altar Guild: Karie Ehlenbach                      · A/V & Recording: RaeLyn Parker

**10:30 am: Annual congregational meeting, sanctuary**

**Happy Birthday:** We wish God's blessings to Tom Wightman (7/16), Joshua Van Dinter (7/17), Rose Marie Foley (7/18), Shane Strong (7/18), Joshua Sullivan (7/18), Diane Kopplin (7/19), Michael Turnbull (7/19) and Nancy Barden (7/21) as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

**Anniversary:** We wish God's blessings to Pastor Joel & Sue Jenswold (7/16), Karen & Dick Laufenberg (7/16) and Harold & Reneé Olson (7/22) who celebrate their anniversaries this week.

**In Our Prayers:** Fred Bakken, Donald Bauer (father of Rich Bauer), Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Peg Schroeder and Steve Tobison who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett, Sara Goss and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

### Offerings June 18 - 23:

- General Fund: \$7,767

### Offerings June 25 - 30:

- General Fund: \$6,330
- Mortgage Reduction: \$ 20

### Offerings July 1 - 8:

- General Fund: \$7,906
- Mortgage Reduction: \$360
- AV Projectors (Wish List): \$50



Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$7,997

**Electronic Giving:** You can give contributions to church through the Vanco Mobile app.

Download the free app today in the **Google Play store** or the **Apple App store**. Find the church by searching for Lord of Love Lutheran Church in DeForest, or by its invite code, D4K54K.

*(June 18 – July 8: In the totals listed above, \$7,869 was given to the general fund and \$50 to the AV Projectors through Vanco electronic giving.)*

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## Looking Ahead:

- **July 18:** Red Cross Blood Drive at Lord of Love. 12 – 5 pm
- **July 23:** Annual Congregational Open Forum and Voter's Meeting, 10:30 am
- **July 26: Adult Bible Study, 6:30 pm** *(Note: Family Bible Night for this evening has been cancelled.)*
- **August 3:** Ladies Friendship Circle outing—Tour of Epicenter and lunch following. Leave church at 9:00 am, tour at 10:00 am.
- **August 6:** WELS Wind Ensemble “Celebrate America!” summer concert. Osthoff Resort near Elkhart Lake. Free admission. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. 2:00 pm.
- **August 9: Family Bible Night, 6:00 – 7:30 pm**
- **August 13:** WELS Wind Ensemble “Celebrate America!” summer concert. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall – Beaver Dam. Free admission and hot dog supper. Air conditioned. Ample parking. 4:00 pm.
- **August 16: Family Bible Night, 6:00 – 7:30 pm**
- **November 10 – 12: WELS/ELS Singles Retreat for 2023, Camp Phillip**