

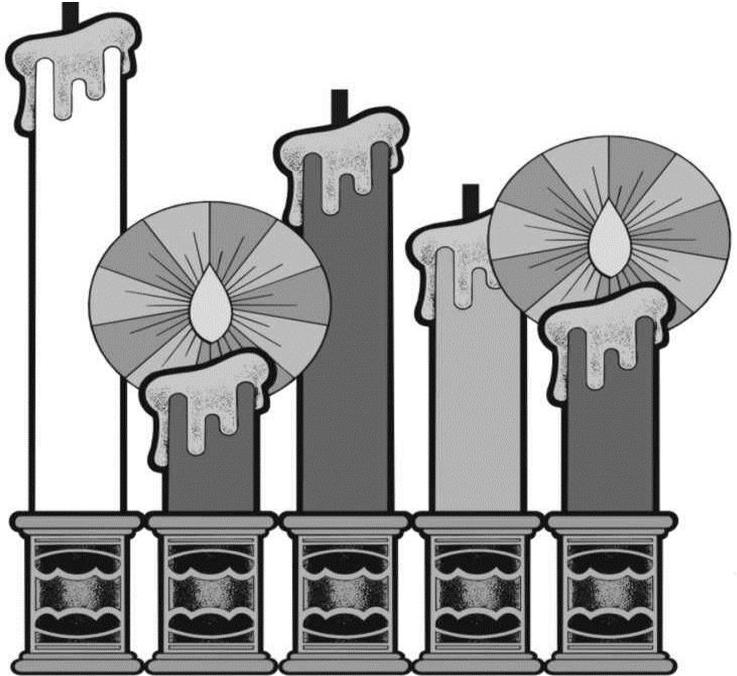
# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*Where Guests Become Friends and Friends Become Family*

# PREPARATION

The LORD is my Rock, my Fortress and my Deliverer; my God is my Rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my Shield and the Horn of my salvation, my Stronghold.

Psalm 18:2



## 2nd Sunday in Advent

**Order of Worship**

**December 10, 2017**

**10:00 am**

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*

**612-781-1989**

**3014 McKinley St NE**

**Minneapolis, MN 55418**

**email: [info@gloriadeilcms.org](mailto:info@gloriadeilcms.org)**

**website: [www.gloriadeilcms.org](http://www.gloriadeilcms.org)**

# *Welcome to God's House today!!!*

A special welcome to visitors and guests; we are pleased that you have joined us today! If you have no church family, and if we can be of any help to you, please speak with the pastor after the service. We invite all guests to sign the Guest Register. We pray you will feel God's love for you and be empowered to live as God's child this week.

**Today's Focus:            Mark's Challenge:**  
***This world's kingdom or God's Kingdom?***

Advent is the season of preparation and expectation for the coming of Christ. It encourages us to examine our lives, to reflect on our need for God to enter our lives and to earnestly prepare for and eagerly await to coming of Christ. The first lesson turns our attention to confession, repentance and divine restoration. The second lesson sees the restoration of the faithful beginning in Christ and fulfilled in the revealing of Jesus Christ on the day of the Lord. Finally, using some of the images of apocalyptic, the Gospel urges the elect to be alert for the return of Christ for no one except the Father knows the day or the hour of the Lord's return.

***Children are welcome in worship!*** If childcare is needed, an unattended nursery is open during worship services. It is located across from the restrooms next to the Church Offices.

***Is there something you'd like us to pray for today?*** "Prayer Request" cards are in each pew. Please hand your request to an usher before the service or during the offering. They will give them to the pastor to include in the prayers for today.

***The Lord's Supper is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays*** of each month. We joyfully share our conviction that this is The Lord's Table. We receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, together with the bread and wine in a manner our human reason cannot understand. (Real Presence) By communing together with our Lord:

- we express the belief that Jesus is the Son of God and Son of Man;
- that Jesus is our Savior and only way for salvation;
- that Jesus offers us His Body and Blood in a mysterious yet real way;
- that Christ's sacrificial death grants the forgiveness of our sins;
- and that God is strengthening us in this Sacrament to live a more godly; life and to amend with the help of the Holy Spirit, those areas not in conformity with God's will.

We declare these statements because it is our concern for people to not be hypocritical between their faith and celebrate the blessings of God's Table at the Altar. Persons unable to approach the Altar may be communed in the pew, please notify the Pastor or Elder if you wish this service.

**The white wine is denatured (alcohol removed)**

# 2nd Sunday in Advent

**AS WE GATHER** Advent is a time God uses to prepare us to celebrate the coming of His Son, our Savior, Jesus. Through His incarnation, Jesus has taken on human flesh in order to save fallen humanity. The God who speaks comfort to us calls us here. The God who addresses us with tenderness meets us here. The God who guides us with gentleness cares for us here. We come to prepare a way for the Lord, We come to ready ourselves for the transformation of our lives. For the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it.

✠ WE ENTER TO WORSHIP AND BE BLESSED ✠

## **PRESERVICE MUSIC**

### **WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" **LSB 347**

### **INVOCATION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*Psalm 18*

**HYMN** "The Advent of Our King"

**LSB 331**

**OUR CONFESSION OF SIN / ABSOLUTION**

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

✠ THE LORD COMES TO US IN HIS WORD ✠

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 40:1-11*

**ESV**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*2 Peter 3:8-14*

**ESV**

**GOSPEL ANTHEM**

"O Jesus, Savior and Our Friend"

Tune: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**LSB 361**

**HOLY GOSPEL READING**

*Mark 1:1-8*

**ESV**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*Scripture interspersed with the Apostles' Creed*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** "Arise, O Christian People" **TUNE: TLH 69**

**SERMON** "Clear A Path, Make A Straight Road"

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

**OFFERING RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE** *2 Corinthians 9:7*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** Tune: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

**THE BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN** "Let the Earth Now Praise . . ." **LSB 352**

+ Silent Prayer +

**ANNOUNCEMENTS / POSTLUDE**

✠ WE DEPART TO SERVE ✠

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** All About Angels  
**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** The Hard Sayings of Paul

## **TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR**

**December 10** **Prep Time"** **(Mark 1:1-3)**

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus  
Preparing for Christmas is quite different than preparing for Christ.  
Today's Lutheran Hour message explores those differences.

## **NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR**

**December 17** **"Life Narrows Down"**  
**(John 1:6-8, 19-28 (John testifies to Christ))**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

John the Baptist had a passion for the Lamb of God. What's your passion in life? How far into the future will it take you?

Listen on WCCO AM at 6:05 am, Sunday mornings, or listen anytime at [www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org) or on XM Satellite Radio you can also hear The Lutheran Hour on XM 170 Sundays at noon

**STEWARDSHIP: Advent 2 -- 1 Corinthians 1:7** "...so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ." The Lord sees to it that we do not lack any gift – He has given us every spiritual blessing in Christ as well as every earthly need. He is the Provider. And we can trust Him to always provide for us in every way.

On **December 16**, the living nativity at **Bethel Lutheran Church, 670 Wheelock Parkway W, Saint Paul** will be held, including a first-century Bethlehem marketplace. Doors open for the marketplace at 5:30pm, with periodic **live shows starting at 6:00pm, concluding at 8:00**. Event is free and for all ages!

## **2018 Calendars**

The 2018 Wall Calendars from Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels are now available on the table (back of Church). *Help yourself!*

**Holiday Twirl and Whirl – December 19, 10:00-11:00 am**

East Side Neighborhood Services, 1700 Second Street NE, Minneapolis, invites you to share in some Holiday Twirl, Whirl, Song and Sweets. Refreshments, singing, music and dancing for young and old in their community room. Please join the celebration of community and the season!

## **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE**

**December 10** "As we bask in the glow of God Himself choosing, from His freedom and through His immeasurable power, to sanctify every aspect and moment of human life by taking flesh and passing through every stage of human growth and development, and sanctifying each of those moments, let's do the very hard work of taking our faith seriously and, knowing God loves us and will always forgive every sin, let's winsomely and gently live in such a way we show the world a better way." *Fr. Barnabas Powell, Cumming, Georgia.*— *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*  
[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

### ***If you have Thrivent Insurance, don't forget Thrivent Choice Dollars! Call every month!***

Call 1-800-Thrivent (1-800-847-4836). When asked for subject, say "Choice Dollars". When asked for a choice, press 1. Then answer the next question with your birth date. Then a Thrivent person will answer. Tell the person you want to direct your choice dollars to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3014 NE McKinley St, Minneapolis.

**\$30 was donated for the month of October**  
***Thank you so much for your generous giving!***

### **Adult Literacy Tutors Needed**

Open Door Learning Center – Northeast, 724 Lowry Ave NE, a program of the Minnesota Literacy Council, is seeking volunteers to serve as Adult Literacy Tutors to help adults gain essential literacy skills. Reading prescription labels, helping a child with homework and filling out job applications are just a few of the goals immigrants, refugees and native-born Minnesotans work toward as they brush up on their reading and writing skills. Volunteers can choose to work one-to-one, in small groups, or as a classroom assistant. The time commitment ranges from 2 – 3 hours per week. Daytime and evening hours are available. Info: Wendy Vang Roberts at 651-251-9063 or [wroberts@mnliteracy.org](mailto:wroberts@mnliteracy.org).

### **HINGES-Opening Your Church's Doors To The Community**

In the past, the doors of the church opened inward, but now people are no longer coming in through Church doors as they once did. Instead, God is calling His Church (you) to open the doors outward as the people of God take the Gospel to the community. Copies of the book we are reading and will have discussion groups in January are available. Ask Pastor for one!!!

**BIRTHDAYS:** 16<sup>th</sup> Dolores Kluwe

**ANNIVERSARIES:** None

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** None

**FLOWERS:** Lyrenmann's – In memory of Patty's Mother's Birthday

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Karmon Christopherson, Millie Eckhardt, Deb Forsberg, Harriet Harris, Gwen Johnson, Ada Samson, Dorothy Woll

**REQUESTED PRAYERS:**

**Tyler Blumke** (Son of Layne Betterman's Coworker) Brain cyst

**Larry Derksen** (Shirley's brother) – recovery from surgery

**Dr. Lori Onger** (Debra Forsberg's niece) – for a baby boy

**Jeffrey Lucero** (Debra Fosberg's nephew) – Ulcer

**Vera Gade** (Pastor's mother) recovering at home

**John Gillund** (Patty & Meridel's brother) heart surgery recovery

**Dick Gillund** (Patty & Meridel's brother)

**Elaine Gillund** – surgery and radiation

**Evie Horman** (Sandy Westling's sister) recovery – heart issues

**Brandon Johnson** (son of Lori Sharbono) continued good results

**Roxie Johnson** (Morelli's niece) heart issues & upcoming surgery

**Steve Kaiser** (friend of Patty Lyrenmann's brother) – COPD

**Beverly Papcek** (Grunnes' cousin) – numb leg, but not cancer

**Amy Price** (Morelli's niece) – treatments for stage 4 cancer

**Jimmy Royal & Dave** (friends of Dick Gillund)

**LaDonna Sund** (Verlayne's sister) pacemaker surgery & recovery

**Marvin & Norma Thor** – poor health/stomach cancer

**Mary Phillips and Dan Crocker** – Chronic Illness

**Seth Ayala (Verlayne's nephew)** – continuing problems

**“IN OUR PRAYERS” AND “REQUESTED PRAYERS”**

If you have family members or friends who require our prayers, please use the prayer request cards found in the pews or at the Ushers' counter and give to the office. They will be added to the Prayer list. Any updates to the current list? Let the office know

**CHRISTMAS TREE:** The Social Ministry Committee is **collecting new gift items** for children 0-14 years old for the **Salvation Army**. There is a greater need for gifts for boys and girls ages 6–14. **Today is the last day** to bring your gifts and place them under the Christmas tree, on Tuesday they will be taken to Salvation Army.

## OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

<b>12/10 Sun</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Advent</b>
	<b>8:45 am Education Hour</b>
	<b>10:00 am Worship</b>
	<b>11:00 am Fellowship</b>
	<b>ERC Meeting</b>
	<b>6:00 pm NA</b>
<b>12/11 Mon</b>	<b>6:30 pm AIAnon 1</b>
	<b>8:00 pm AA/AIAnon 2</b>
<b>12/12 Tues</b>	<b>10:00 pm Shut-In Basket Assembly</b>
	<b>7:00 pm All Boards Meeting</b>
<b>12/13 Wed</b>	<b>10:00 am BIBLE STUDY</b>
	<b>6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study</b>
<b>12/15 Fri</b>	<b>5:00 pm TLWCC Music Practice</b>
	<b>8:00 pm AA/AIAnon</b>
<b>12/16 Sat</b>	<b>10:00 am TLWCC Worship</b>
	<b>6:00 pm TLWCC Worship &amp; Fellowship</b>
<b>12/17 Sun</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Advent</b>
	<b>8:45 am Education Hour</b>
	<b>10:00 am Worship w/HC</b>
	<b>6:00 pm NA</b>

### SERVING TODAY

**Elder: Karmon Christopherson**

**Ushers: Morellis**

**Counters: Dale Raschke & Wade Billmeyer**

**Altar Care: The Lyrenmanns**

**Attendance 12/03/17: 31**

**Offerings -- Regular \$2,415; Loose: \$153; Flowers \$13.50;**

**Rent \$825**

**Total: \$3,406.50**

**Needed each week for 2017: \$3,477.59**

## DECEMBER KOA

### The Many Symbols of Christmas and Their Meaning

Thursday, **December 21st** at noon, we will be having a Pot Blessing. See the signup sheet on the bulletin board and choose an item to bring. If you are unable to make something or get out to buy something or need a ride let Verlayne know.

**Also please bring an item for the food shelf.**

**Christmas Fundraiser at Bywood East  
December 14 @ 9:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**Bywood East Health Care**, 3427 Central Ave. NE, is having a Christmas fundraiser. Large selection of holiday baked goods, plus grilled hot dogs, pop, chips and their famous chicken soup for sale. Many residents have been working on craft projects that are available for purchase as well. Proceeds will be given to the Sunshine Club which provides transportation for outings, Christmas gifts, and entertainment for Bywood East residents.

Info: Mary Farnham 612-788-9757.

**The Concordia University  
Department of Music, Theatre & Dance Presents:  
Christmas Vespers Service -- Sunday, December 10 | 7 PM**  
Graebner Memorial Chapel, 1259 Carroll Ave, St. Paul  
Concert Band, Vox 9 (vocal jazz ensemble)  
and Shades of Harmony Gospel Choir  
**Free | No tickets or reservations required!**

**If you haven't turned in your Annual Pledge Letter and  
Commitment Card, it's not too late!**

There are extra cards and envelopes on the usher's shelf in the back of the church. Fill one out, place it in a sealed envelope with your name on the front, and place it in the offering plate OR mail it to the church. Thanks!

**Mammograms & Breast Health  
Tuesday, December 19, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm at Central Clinic**  
(2610 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418). To schedule a mammogram, call 612-287-2433.

Join Neighborhood HealthSource for mammograms and breast health education. Most insurance accepted. If your insurance doesn't cover a mammogram or if you don't have insurance, MDH Sage covers costs for eligible women. Funded by Susan J. Komen Minnesota and Park Nicollet Health Services.

“My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?”

— **Bob Hope**

## **Grocery Assistance -- Help At Your Door**

Help At Your Door provides access to nutritious food, companionship, and a helpful hand in your kitchen. Grocery Assistance is \$15 and includes:

- Easy-to-use product catalog and phone order placement
- No internet needed — though clients do have the option to place orders online
- Delivery of grocery items and help with putting them away
- Accept EBT payments/SNAP benefits

### **5 Simple Steps on How the Service Works**

**STEP 1:** The process is easy. To register call their office at 651-642-1892. You will be enrolled within three business days and your first delivery will be within one week of time of enrollment.

**STEP 2:** Once registered, you will receive an easy-to-use grocery product catalog filled with thousands of groceries and household items.

**STEP 3:** You will then be paired with a volunteer who will call you to take your order at a specific day and time each week. Do you prefer to place orders online? We have the option for clients to login and create their own orders.

**STEP 4:** Groceries will be delivered to you on the same day each week, so that you can plan your schedule according to your delivery day.

**STEP 5:** Payment for groceries happens upon delivery when our drivers bring the groceries into your kitchen. We even help with the extras – like unpacking bags, opening jars, or putting away heavy items. We make payment for your groceries easy for you. We accept checks, credit and debit cards and SNAP benefits via EBT. We cannot accept cash nor tips.

Schedule Help At Your Door's Grocery Assistance Service today by calling 651-642-1892.

Would you like to speak with a Help At Your Door spokesperson? Please call **(651)642-1892** to schedule an interview with Executive Director, Karen Cotch.

# PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

At the Annual Voter's Meeting on Nov 12<sup>th</sup>  
Gloria Dei voted to become a  
TOGETHER IN MISSION congregation.

This partnership agreement means that  
because of our desire to participate more  
directly and personally in God's mission—  
to bring the Good News of salvation to the  
very ends of the earth—we commit  
ourselves to support the mission



endeavors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through LCMS  
Mission Advancement in partnership with

## Missionary Kayla Hoem – Spain Team

### Commitment of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Our earnest and sincere desire is to be Christ's ambassadors,  
proclaiming the saving Gospel of Christ and making disciples for Him  
both at home and throughout the world. We, the members of Gloria  
Dei Lutheran Church, do prayerfully and joyfully commit ourselves by  
God's grace:

1. to support Missionary Kayla Hoem in the amount of **\$600** per year, payable quarterly for 1 year. A 2 or 3 year option is open.
2. to praying in private and weekly in public worship for Missionary Kayla Hoem and the work of the Spain/Latin America Team;
3. to communicate with Missionary Kayla Hoem through letters, cards, and e-mails, especially on her birthday (**February 15**) and during special church seasons;
4. to welcome Missionary Kayla Hoem when she return on home service, providing her the opportunity to share with us what God has done and is doing through her and the Latin America;
5. to assume the responsibility for the missionary's travel expenses such as transportation, meals, and housing to visit Gloria Dei Lutheran Church during home service, **if her schedule allows.**

**TOGETHER-IN MISSIONS**- Kayla Hoem - Missionary to Spain  
Offering envelopes are being sent to us and can be used in addition  
to your regular offering as you choose. Quarterly door offerings  
are being planned throughout the year to support her.

# **Catechesis Note for the Week**

## **What is the significance of the humanity of Jesus?**

The humanity of Jesus is essential to the character of Jesus as the Christ. Second John 1:7 specifically states that those who deny the humanity of Jesus are false teachers: "For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist." Jesus is God *in the flesh*.

First John 4:1-3 instructs, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already." To fail to accept Jesus as fully human is to miss the true message of Jesus.

The humanity of Jesus is important because prophecy required a physical birth. The Messianic prophecy of Isaiah 9:6 had said, "a child is born." Galatians 4:4-5 says, "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."

Also, the Son of God entered the world fully human in order to experience the struggles of humanity. Without His humanity, Jesus could not have been tempted as we are (Matthew 4:1-10), nor could He experience human sadness, suffering, or pain.

Another important reason Jesus had to be fully human was that He had to die for the sins of humanity on the cross. If He did not have flesh and blood, then He could not shed His blood; He could not die. Without the death of Christ, there is no sacrifice for sins, and we are unforgiven (2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 9:22).

Related to the fact of His death is the fact of His resurrection. After His physical death, Jesus physically rose from the dead. If He had not died, then He certainly could not have resurrected. This teaching is essential to the Christian faith.

Those who deny the humanity of Christ reject an essential doctrine of the Bible. A belief that Jesus was a spiritual being or that He only had the *appearance* of physicality negates the reality of His death and makes salvation impossible. Scripture proclaims that Jesus is both the Son of God and the Son of Man.

# Today's Scripture Readings

**ISAIAH 40:1-11:** Exiled as captive slaves for over fifty years in Babylon, God's people had lived in guilt, despondency, lonely forsakenness and spiritual depression. Now a comforting prophetic voice announces that God is coming to them gloriously, so that even the desert and mountains must give way to this majestic procession. The people, of course, can similarly clear their hearts of sin's obstacles; for they can know that their punishment is not permanent! While human flesh vanishes, the word of the Lord remains firm and effective forever. The exiles can therefore be assured. Inhabitants of the desolated cities of Judah may also be told that the all-powerful Lord is coming with reviving mercy.

**2 PETER 3:8-15a:** There are always people who laugh about the end of the world. St Peter says, 'Don't.' If God has delayed this event, it is simply because in his eternal way of working the main consideration is human repentance. He wants for himself every person who will turn from sin before that end assuredly comes. The physical world and all that is done in it will be consumed, thus ending sin and establishing total and eternal righteousness. Christians accordingly should not only believe, but give their deep faith clear expression through holy and peaceable living in the church.

**MARK 1:1-8:** Part of today's first reading is picked up by Mark as a prophecy reaching its ultimate fulfilment. The coming of the Lord to his people in a special way in the promised Messiah was announced by the voice in the wilderness, John the Baptist. His message called for people to make straight their lives through repentance. Baptism, an outward bodily washing, was to be accompanied by the inward washing by God through forgiveness. The one who was coming would baptize with fire. Jesus fulfilled this promise by sending the Holy Spirit on Pentecost day, having attained the forgiveness of the whole world. God's people have indeed returned home, led by the Lord himself.

## Lessons for the 3rd Sunday in Advent

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126; 1 Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28*