

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*Where Guests Become Friends and Friends Become Family*

# DEDICATION

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. *Luke 2.22*



**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**Order of Worship**

**December 31, 2017 | 10:00 am**

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*

**612-781-1989**

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# *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 -The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption from Sin & Death*

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus “*brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord*” (Luke 2:22). God the Father did not spare His only-begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His Cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death.

***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)**

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

## **AS WE GATHER**

As we come to worship our Lord Jesus, we give thanks to God that we have this opportunity to gather in our Father's house. It is not a house built with wood or stone, but by His Word and the presence of the Holy Spirit. Being in God's house is the most important place that we can ever be, and this is where God wants us to be, with Him, in His house.

✠ WE ENTER TO WORSHIP AND BE BLESSED ✠

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *"Let All Together. . ."* **LSB 389 v.1-3, 5**

## **INVOCATION**

*(Psalm 122:1)*

## **CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF GRACE**

✠ THE LORD COMES TO US IN HIS WORD ✠

## **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

**ESV**

## **EPISTLE LESSON**

*Galatians 4:4-7*

**ESV**

## **GOSPEL ANTHEM**

*"O Sing of Christ"*

**LSB 362**

## **GOSPEL LESSON**

*Luke 2:21-40*

**ESV**

## **HYMN of the DAY**

*"O Savior of Our Fallen Race"*

**LSB 403**

*Tune: LSB 405*

## **SERMON**

*"Circumcised to Set Us Free"*

**Luke 2:21**

✠ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ✠

## **OFFERING of GOD'S PEOPLE**

**SOLO** *(sung during the offering)*

*"It Is No Secret What God Can Do" Soloist: K. Christopherson*

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

*"A Great and Mighty Wonder"*

**LSB 383**

*+ Silent Prayer +*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/POSTLUDE**

✠ WE DEPART TO SERVE ✠



**BIRTHDAYS:** 31<sup>ST</sup> Millie Demcho

**ANNIVERSARIES:** None

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** None

**FLOWERS:** Christmas Poinsettias

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

**REQUESTED PRAYERS:**

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

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

**Dr. Lori Ongeri** (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)

**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

### **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!!!**

## **OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR**

<b>12/31 Sun</b>	<b>First Sunday After Christmas</b>
	<b>8:45 am Education Hour</b>
	<b>10:00 am Worship</b>
	<b>6:00 pm NA</b>
<b>1/01 Mon</b>	<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>
	<b>6:30 pm AIAnon 1</b>
	<b>8:00 pm AA/AIAnon 2</b>
<b>1/03 Wed</b>	<b>10:00 am BIBLE STUDY</b>
	<b>6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study</b>
<b>1/05 Fri</b>	<b>5:00 pm TLWCC Music Practice</b>
	<b>8:00 pm AA/AIAnon</b>
<b>1/06 Sat</b>	<b>10:00 am TLWCC Worship</b>
	<b>6:00 pm TLWCC Worship &amp; Fellowship</b>
<b>1/07 Sun</b>	<b>Epiphany Sunday</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: Verlayne Sather and Shirley Slagle**

**Counters: Derald and Chris Hadrath**

**Altar Care: The Lyrenmanns**

**Attendance 12/24 (10 AM): 40; 5 PM: 27; 12/25: 23**

**Offerings -- Regular \$1,460; Holiday: \$2,205; Loose: \$547;**

**Rent: \$100**

**Total: \$4,312**

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

### **CATCH THE LHM FLOAT ON JAN 1**

"Bringing Christ to the Nations" is the theme of the Lutheran Hour Ministries float that will be featured in the 2018 Rose Parade in Pasadena, CA. The parade kicks off at 8 am Pacific Standard Time on **January 1, 2018** with nearly 40 floats, 20 marching bands and 20 equestrian groups. Among TV stations that will air the parade is the commercial-free HGTV cable channel (Home and Garden Television), as well as a number of local stations.

**This is the only Christian-themed float in the parade!**

## **Alert: Carrier shortage causes late mail deliveries**

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night . . ." It's the gloom-of-night deliveries that bug the heck out of some Northeasters. According to Peter Nowacki in the downtown office, Northeast has several vacant postal routes due to attrition – retirements, moves to stations in other parts of the city, promotions. "If we have a vacant route, carriers may have to double up [on routes] to deliver the mail. So instead of doing just one route, they may deliver to two. Newer carriers don't know the routes as well, so it takes them longer," he said. And, hence, the evening deliveries. It's not just Northeast, however. There's an overall shortage of carriers throughout the Twin Cities.

## **Life Line Screening Coming Soon!**

We are pleased to host this Life Line Screening event on February 5, 2018 at Gloria Dei. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle).**



### ***The poinsettias on the altar were given by:***

*Jean Brede in memory of Loved Ones*  
*Karmon & Meridel Christopherson in memory of Loved Ones*  
*Pastor & Diane Gade in memory of Grandparents*  
*Derald & Chris Hadrath in memory of Parents*  
*Gwen Johnson*  
*Tom & Patty Lyrenmann in memory of Loved Ones*  
*Al, Pam & Aaron Morelli in memory of Loved Ones*  
*Verlayne Sather in memory of Our Savior*  
*Pat Scott in memory of Parents*  
*Lori Sharbono in memory of Family*  
*Shirley Slagle in memory of Family*  
*Sandy Westling in memory of Loved Ones*  
*Jeannette Wohlk in memory of Vernon Wohlk*

## **FINAL 2017 OFFERINGS**

The IRS makes it **VERY** clear, for a contribution to be credited to the 2017 tax year, **it must be received on our premises, or postmarked, no later than midnight on December 31, 2017 (TODAY)**. Dropping it into the offering plate on Sunday, January 7, 2018 with a December 31 date on the check **DOES NOT** qualify. The IRS is very firm about this.

*Please Note: Installation of all officers and board members will be held Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at a special ceremony during our regular worship service.*

### **"Old Minnesota Cities: Not Forgotten"**

Now through - January 30, 2018 from 8 am to 5 pm, Mike Melman's show, "Old Minnesota Cities: Not Forgotten" is on display at Pierre Bottineau Library 55 Broadway St. N.E. He will give a talk about his paintings Jan. 13 at 3 p.m.

### **Auditions: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"**

St. Matthew's will be holding Auditions for their Spring production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. This community project requires a large cast, with actors/singers of all ages and abilities.

**Auditions:** Jan. 7 (12-3 pm), Jan. 10 (7-9:30 pm), and Jan. 14 (12-3 pm); call backs Jan. 17, if needed

**Performances:** Thursdays thru Sundays, April 26-29 and May 3-6

**Rehearsals:** Begin on Friday, Jan. 26.

**Questions?** Contact Vanessa Powers (director) at 320-583-5763, Renee Chizek (technical director) at 763-742-880, or Carol Blase (music director) at 763-788-9427. Spread the word!

### **Tai Ji Quan: Moving For Better Balance**

East Side Neighborhood Services is offering Moving for Better Balance. This Tai Chi class reduces risk of falls by improving balance, muscle strength, flexibility, and mobility through mindful movements in a slow, flowing motion. This exercise class meets twice a week on Monday and Wednesday afternoons for 12 weeks from 10:30 – 11:30 am. Classes run January 8 - April 4 (no class January 15 or 31). The cost of this class is based on ability to pay. No one will be turned away due to financial constraints. To register, email TeamEVA@esns.org or call 612-787-4045.

# **Catechesis Note for the Week**

## **What is the significance of the name Jesus**

Why did the angel tell Mary and Joseph to name the baby “Jesus”? Is there some holy significance to this particular sequence of letters or sounds? No, these letters and sounds are different in every language into which the name of Jesus is translated. The name of Jesus is not *phonologically* unique; it was a fairly common Jewish name and is still used today, though not in English. For example, *Jesús* is a fairly common name in many Hispanic countries.

“Jesus” is an English rendering of the Greek name *Iēsous*, which is a translation of the ancient Hebrew *Yeshua*. This name is formed from Hebrew roots signifying “Yahwah is salvation” and is translated in our English Old Testament as “Joshua.” The Greek version of this name also refers to Joshua once in the New Testament (*Hebrews 4:8*).

The name of Jesus is significant because of who it represents—it means “the One who saves” Jesus Christ is *Immanuel*, “God with us” (*Matthew 1:22–23*). He came to earth as a man in order to die in our place and become our Savior. This is why the angel said, “you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” However, Jesus is not just a name of unmatched humility; it is also a name of infinite exaltation. His name is glorified far above every other name:

***Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Philippians 2:9–11*; cf. *Acts 4:12*)***

# Today's Scripture Readings

**ISAIAH 61:10 – 62:3:** Today's reading from Isaiah assures the promise of release and restoration made to despondent Jews in Babylonian slavery, and to depressed Jews still living around the demolition and ruins of Jerusalem. The prophet firstly tells of spiritual restoration. What greater exultation can there be than to be dressed by God's hand in salvation and righteousness? Great reason for God's praise being seen by the nations! Jerusalem, another name for God's people, will be seen to be acquitted. This exoneration from requited sins shines like a bright light when God says it!

**GALATIANS 4:4-7:** God's son, being born of a woman, is fully human and therefore under God's law. God, who gave the law, being completely holy, doesn't need it for himself. His Son, also being fully God, could therefore keep that law perfectly as no human ever did or can do. Having satisfied his Father's requirements for perfection, Mary's Son could die as a substitute for the whole guilty world. The infinite unpayable price for sin is thereby paid. We are redeemed – bought back and freed from slavery. Indeed we cry, 'Dear Father'.

**LUKE 2:21-40:** Jesus is seen to be 'under the law' right from the start. His presentation, however, is more noteworthy because of an old man's prophetic recognition of Messiahship in the shape of a helpless infant in the arms of a humble working couple. Simeon was ready to die now that he had seen the arrival of God's salvation. Note the remarkable knowledge that this salvation would go out to all the non-Jewish nations also! Anna's prophecy also clearly details the infant's future role as redeemer of God's people. God's Spirit always draws people to what God wills for their eternal life with him.

## Lessons for Epiphany Sunday

Epiphany; Is. 60:1-6; Ps. 72:1-11 (12-15); Eph. 3:1-12; Matt. 2:1-12