

Life Begins At the Cross

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

Mark 8:34



Second Sunday in Lent

Order of Worship

February 25, 2018 10:00 am

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

3014 McKinley St NE, Minneapolis, MN

612-781-1989

email: info@gloriadeilcms.org

website: 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 - How important is it to trust God?

It's so important, James writes, that we should call our worst moments joyful things, because trials help us trust God more. People who trust God ask Him for wisdom—and then take what He gives. People who trust God make a bigger deal about their rewards in the next life than their wealth in this one. People who trust God don't blame Him for their desire to sin; they give Him credit for all that is good in their lives. They look into His Word, and they act on what they see there.

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)

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

AS WE GATHER:

Most will agree that life no longer is a predictable journey because it's full of uncertainty. Dreams become unattainable, careers change, plans aborted.

Yet as Abram and Sarai find out, as Paul proclaims and as Jesus demonstrates, the path God has laid out for us, His people, is filled with promises beyond our comprehension. God is indeed awesome, not only because of His splendid attributes but because in Christ, He endured the dreadful curse of the cross for us.

✠ WE ENTER TO WORSHIP AND BE BLESSED ✠

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP "God of Mercy, God of Grace" TLH 20

INVOCATION selected verses of Psalm 22

CONFESSION OF SINS Psalm 25:6-7

ABSOLUTION

HYMN OF PRAISE "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" K & K Getty

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

✠ THE LORD COMES TO US IN HIS WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 17:1-7; 15-16 **ESV**

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 5:1-11 **ESV**

GOSPEL ANTHEM "We Hope Against All Hope!" Tune: LSB 798

HOLY GOSPEL READING Mark 8:27-38 **ESV**

OUR BAPTISMAL CONFESSION - THE APOSTLES CREED

SONG OF THE DAY "Take Up Your Cross..." Tune: LSB 579

SERMON "Following Jesus" Mark 8:34

"Guest Pastor - Rev. John Stern"

✠ OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

OFFERTORY "Create in Me" Hopkins

OFFERING OF THANKSGIVING Psalm 105:1

THE OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "Drawn to the Cross" LSB 560

+ Silent Prayer +

ANNOUNCEMENTS/POSTLUDE

✠ WE DEPART TO SERVE ✠

WE WELCOME the Reverend John Stern TODAY

Rev. Stern graciously blesses Gloria Dei today as he serves the Pulpit Supply while Pastor Gade & Diane attend a family wedding in Red Wing. Welcome Rev. Stern & Susan, his wife, as they worship with you today.

TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

February 25 "Living and Dying" (Romans 5:1-11)

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus
Looking at sinful mankind, Jesus found what he was willing to die, and to live for. Are we willing to do the same?

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

March 4 (Exodus 20:1-17)

"When God's Darkness Surrounds You "

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

When times are darkest, God wants you to know how close He really is. It's in those threatening times that you can especially learn and live in His love.

On Sunday mornings, listen on 830 AM WCCO AM at 6:05 am, or 1110 AM, Omaha, at 6:30 am, or XM 170 Satellite Radio on Sundays at noon or listen anytime at www.lutheranhour.org

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE: February 25

"So when we see the embryo ... in that petri dish—vulnerable, helpless, and destined for destruction—we are compelled to speak and defend and help. And not because it is the right thing to do or the moral thing to do, but because it is the *Christ* thing to do. Our God became incarnate as an embryo, giving value to all embryos."

Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of LFL

STEWARDSHIP: February 25 (Lent 2) **Mark 8:32**

"Jesus said this plainly. But Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him." Anytime we sin we are acting like Peter: thinking we know better than the Lord. But as Jesus says, such acts stem from Satan. So let us repent: let us trust our Lord Jesus and follow Him. For certainly we owe our trust to Him because of His gracious sacrifice for us.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

2 Timothy

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Comparative Christianity

New Program Keeps Tabs On City Government

The city's new Legislative Information Management System (LIMS) is seven years in the making. Launched in September 2017, LIMS was designed to be intuitive to use. From a user's perspective, it's a website filled with information. Click on the Calendar & Agendas tab at the top of the page, and you can see every meeting scheduled at City Hall for the current month. Never heard of a "cadastre"? The LIMS glossary will tell you it's "a public record of the surveyed dimensions and value of land parcels used to record ownership and calculate taxes." Couldn't make the last council meeting? All council meetings are live streamed, and the videos are archived. LIMS can also help you keep tabs on your council member. LIMS will provide session statistics every quarter detailing attendance, voting records and the ordinances passed. Perhaps one of the best features of LIMS won't show up on your computer screen. The project has been funded primarily through cost savings achieved in the City Clerk's office. Contact the City Clerk's office, 612-673-2216. LIMS.minneapolis.gov.

Grace Lutheran Church presents an Italian Lasagna Dinner Saturday, March 3, 2018 | 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Entertainment and Quilt raffle! Adults \$15; Kids ages 5-12 \$5; 4 & under are free!; Family ticket \$40 (2 adults max). Vegetarian lasagna available. Call 612-788-2444 to reserve tickets.

1500 6th Street NE – two blocks northeast of Broadway and University. Enter at Door #3 on the west side of the building.

Shortened Luther Movie Now on Netflix

A one-hour version of "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World" is now available for viewing on Netflix. The full-length, two-hour edition of the acclaimed film premiered in selected theaters last year and nationwide on PBS Sept 12. The shortened version will be offered for two years. Netflix is very selective, adding just 50 new programs in January and because Netflix watches viewership levels closely, if "Martin Luther" does well, it could lead to similarly themed productions going forward. The streaming service also reaches audiences worldwide. Funded by Thrivent, the film dramatizes the events that shaped Luther and examines the questions he wrestled with. Included are insights and commentary from LCMS theologians and historians. For more information about "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World," visit NewLutherMovie.com

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

2/25 Sun	Second Sunday in Lent
	8:45 am Education Hour
	10:00 am Worship
	6:00 pm NA
2/26 Mon	6:30 pm AIAnon 1
	8:00 pm AA/AIAnon 2
2/28 Wed	10:00 am BIBLE STUDY
	6:30 pm Lenten Midweek 2
	6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study
3/02 Fri	5:00 pm TLWCC Music Practice
	8:00 pm AA/AIAnon
3/03 Sat	10:00 am TLWCC Worship
	6:00 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
3/04 Sun	Third Sunday in Lent w/HC
	8:45 am Education Hour
	10:00 am Worship
	6:00 pm NA

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Ushers: Morelli Family

Counters: Jan Brede and Tom Harris

Altar Care: Shirley Holzinger

Attendance: 2/18/2018: 20

Offerings -- Regular \$1,400; Loose Plate \$20;

Bethesda \$50; Portals of Prayer \$5; Rent \$1,275

Total: \$2,750

Needed each week for 2017: \$3,477.59

2018 Midweek Series:

The Servant Songs of Isaiah

Midweek Services are on Wednesday at 6:30 pm

Lent Service Schedule

Feb 28	Midweek 2 (The Servant of All)	"The Successful Failure"
Mar 7	Midweek 3 (The Committed Servant)	"Learn and Live!"
Mar 14	Midweek 4 (The Suffering Servant)	"The Servant Suffers"
Mar 21	Midweek 5 (The Triumphant Servant)	"The Great Reversal"

BIRTHDAYS: 28th Brian Morelli

ANNIVERSARIES: None

ETERNAL CANDLE: None

FLOWERS: None

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jean Brede, Karmon Christopherson,
Millie Demcho, Millie Eckhardt, Rose Ehnes, Deb Forsberg,
Harriet Harris, Ada Samson, Dorothy Woll, Margaret Maxwell,
Nanc Rixe

REQUESTED PRAYERS:

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 in Rehab in Shakopee

John Gillund (Patty & Meridel's brother) aneurysms in
stomach/legs

Dick Gillund (Patty & Meridel's brother)

Elaine Gillund – surgery and radiation

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

“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

Options and Resources to Support Aging in Place

Learn why planning for long-term care is important. Discuss the costs of long-term care and share tools and resources available to help older adults who prefer to stay in their homes. **Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 – 7: PM, FREE!**

Online registration at www.mplscommunityed.com. Register at least one week in advance online or by call 612-668-1590.

Direct Your 2017 Thrivent Choice Dollars by Mar 31, 2018

We are excited to share, based on member recommendations, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church received \$1,969 in charitable outreach funding in 2017. We have also received \$325 as of January 2018.

THANK YOU!

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until **March 31, 2018**, to direct them. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Migratory bird exhibit at Silverwood Park

"Minnesota Migratory Birds" is currently on display at Silverwood Park, **2500 County Road E., St. Anthony**. The traveling art exhibit features a suite of prints and informational plaques, created by students from Blake School, about birds that migrate through Minnesota. The students chose 18 birds who face threats to their habitats. The plaques include information about what people can do to mitigate these threats. The exhibition is located in the park's annex gallery and runs through Feb. 28.

File Your Taxes for Free at Prepare + Prosper

Prepare + Prosper (P+P) encourages low- and moderate-income individuals and families to save money this tax season by filing their taxes for free to get their maximum refund. Now through April 14, P+P's IRS-certified volunteers work one-on-one with taxpayers to help them claim all the credits they've earned. The nonprofit also provides financial services to help people save some of their refund, get connected to financial coaching, and answer money-related questions.

Info: prepareandprosper.org/free-tax-preparation.

Prepare + Prosper is located at 2610 University Ave W # 450, St Paul.

Phone: 651-287-0187 | Website: prepareandprosper.org

Same Program – New Name!

"Worship for Shut-Ins" is now named "Worship Anew"

Broadcasting a 30-minute weekly workshop service via television, internet and a DVD subscription

Visit us at WorshipAnew.org | Call toll-free 888-286-8002

Catechesis Note for the Week

Denying Self and Taking Up the Cross

*This third week of meditation upon Holy Baptism leads us into the daily significance of our Baptism: **"the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."***

Let us unpack these words. Contrition and repentance are part of what it means to believe in Christ and let go of the self for salvation. Contrition is that aspect of faith that realizes and believes that we have sinned against the God who loves us and it grieves our heart. The New Man of faith desires to love and trust in Christ above all things.

Daily contrition recognizes that we still daily sin much and need His daily mercy and forgiveness. Repentance is that aspect of faith that not only confesses sin, but does so with the conviction that Christ alone is the Savior from that sin. Contrition and repentance desires to hear and receive Christ's forgiveness. It yearns to hear Christ's life-giving Word by which faith is strengthened, comfort is bestowed, and the New Man arises.

The New Man is Christ Himself in us, joined by the Spirit with our spirit, who lives joyously and confidently in the everlasting "righteousness, innocence, and blessedness" of the cross. The New Man is born in us in Holy Baptism and daily arises from contrition and repentance by the Word of forgiveness. This is why it can be said that the Baptismal life of contrition and repentance leads us to confession and absolution and why confession and absolution is a return to our Baptism.

*Contrition and repentance, the renouncing of self in confession, the clinging to Christ's Word of grace that makes us alive, is what is taught by Jesus in this week's Bible verse: **"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me."** (Luke 9:23).*

Today's *Scripture* Readings

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16: The Lord's covenant with Abraham is all about God's promises of salvation. All of His promises to Abraham are proclamations of the Gospel: The good news of what God is doing for our salvation in Christ. It is the message of God's grace and forgiveness. Even though Jesus had not yet died upon the cross, the promises of the Gospel made to Abraham both anchored that salvation to Christ and delivered that salvation to him. It is the same for us. When we hear the promises of the Gospel—the promises of forgiveness, life and salvation—they are rooted in Jesus' saving work for us and they deliver the benefits of that salvation to us. Faith is created by these promises and faith receives these promises with all their benefits. The Lord changes the name of Abram and Sarai to Abraham and Sarah as a sign of His covenant and that they become righteous and holy through faith in Him.

Romans 5:1-11: We learn to glory in our tribulations because we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ and have peace with God through Him. We know God best when we see and believe in Him as the one who loves His enemies and has done everything to save them. We were His enemies and still Christ died for us. Herein lies the strength of our lives and the source of our joy.

Mark 8:27-38: There is only one truth: Jesus is the Christ, who suffered and died for our salvation. Peter and his fellow disciples confessed that Jesus was the Christ, but they stumbled over the cross. Any teaching that oppose the centrality of the death and resurrection of Christ for our salvation is anti-Christ and of Satan. Jesus' suffering and death are not only the source of our salvation, but they also shape our lives as Christians who believe in Him. It is through our suffering that we, by God's grace in Jesus' suffering for our salvation, are drawn closer to Christ as our only God and Savior. To be a Christian means that we lose our life in Christ whose loving sacrifice for us is the only real source of life.

Lessons for the Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Cor. 1:18-31; John 2:13-22 (23-25)