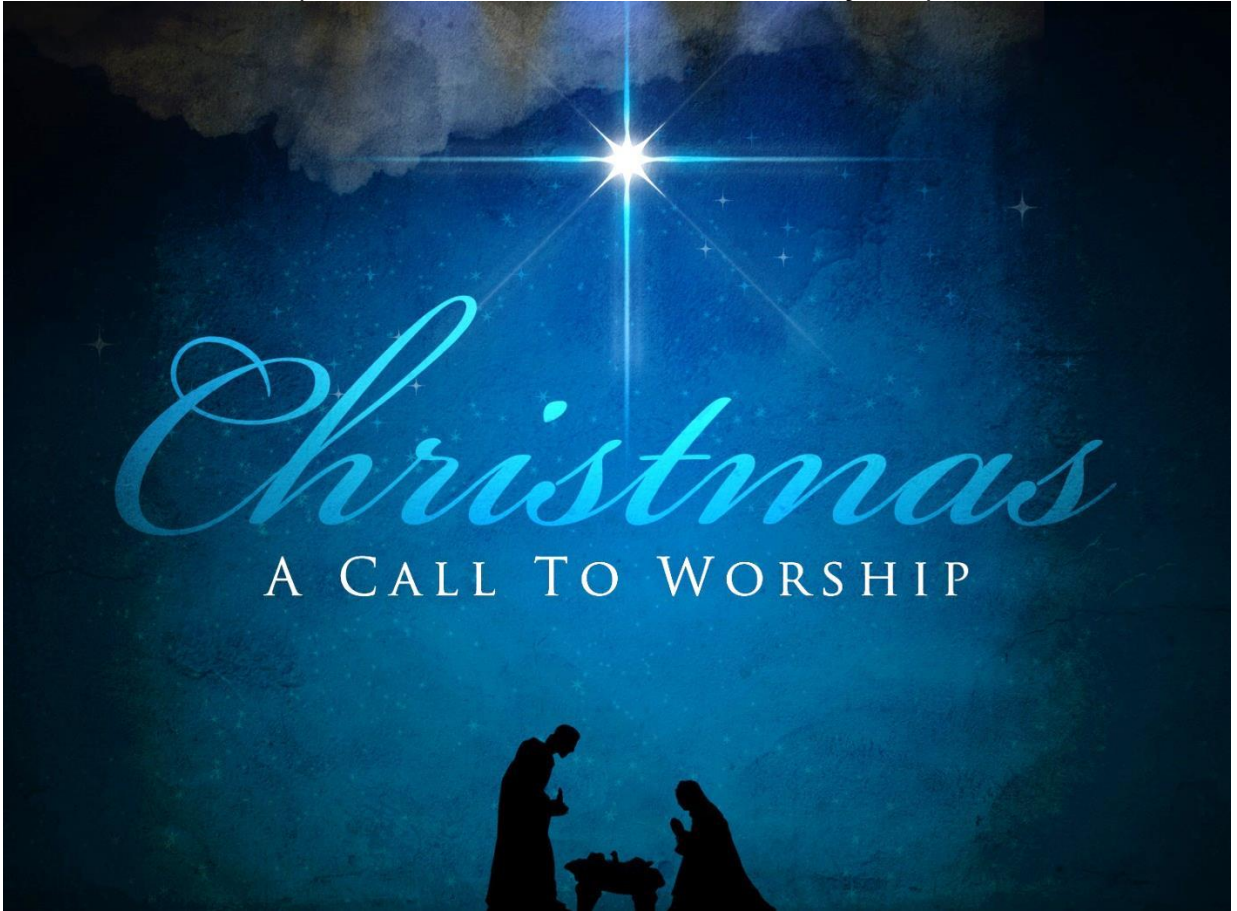


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



“THE WORSHIP AT CHRISTMAS”

Order of Worship December 10, 2023 | 10 AM
Vacancy Pastor Matthew Cephus

3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418
612-781-1989

www.gloriadeilcms.org

email: info@gloriadeilcms.org

Guest Music Director Daniel Carlson

Welcome to God's House!

The Mission of Gloria Dei is Caring. Sharing. Serving. Reaching.

We strive to be the local church in the community of Northeast Minneapolis, who are here to help people come to KNOW Jesus, GROW in their faith and GO into the world equipped to SERVE others. GLORY TO GOD!

Today's Topic: Three categories of worship are mentioned in our gospel text. Today, we'll find out which one pleases God.

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 or via the church office. We pray you will feel God's love for you and be empowered to live as God's child this week. We look forward to seeing you again.

Is there something you'd like us to pray for today? If you have family members or friends who require our prayers, please use the prayer request cards found in each pew. They will be added to the Prayer list. You can hand your request to an usher before the service or during the offering. They will be given to the Pastor to be included in the prayers for today. ***Other prayer requests can be made by contacting the church office at 612.781.1989.***

Children are welcome in worship!

The Lord's Supper is celebrated.

When we receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ,

- 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.

Join Bible Study with Pastor Matthew on Wednesday, December 13 at 11 am **OR** Thursday evening "Knowing the Bible" bible study, December 14 at 5:30 pm with Daniel and Katie Beth Carlson

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, fountain-head of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

OLD TESTAMENT READING**Isaiah 9:6-7**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING**Hebrews 12:22-24, 28**

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2: 1-12

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

The Visit of the Wise Men

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

SONG OF THE DAY

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

LSB 379

Text & Tune: Public Domain

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him born the King of angels:

**Refrain: Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing!

Refrain

MESSAGE "The Worship at Christmas" Pastor Matthew Cephus

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

PREFACE TO HOLY COMMUNION

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

L: It is our duty and delight at all times and everywhere to give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for You have enlightened us by the working of the Holy Spirit. Grant that the Spirit, who has called and gathered us, would guide us in all things, that we be enabled to speak the Gospel to others and rejoice in sharing the gift of salvation that is our treasure. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, with You and the Holy Spirit, is one God, through whom with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take this, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you, Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

LSB 643

*Text: © 1964 World Library Publications Tune: Public Domain
Setting: © 1972 Inter-Lutheran Commission of Worship*

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, with Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Than may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

+ Silent Prayer +

POSTLUDE

+ WE DEPART TO SERVE +

+ + +

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Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for the holidays. It looks beautiful!

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

12/10 Sun

Second Sunday in Advent

10:00 am **Worship w/Holy Communion,
w/Vacancy Pastor Matthew Cephus of Royal Family**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship Service

6:00 pm NA

12/11 Mon

5:30 pm Beginners AIAnon

7:00 pm AIAnon

12/13 Wed

11:00 am **Mid-Week Service & Bible Study w/Fellowship**

12/14 Thurs

5:30 pm **"Knowing the Bible" Bible Study**

12/15 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

12/16 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

5:00 pm **Caroling Service w/GDLC & Royal Family**

6:00 pm **Pictures with Santa, GDLC Lobby**

5:00 pm Living Word Christmas Gathering

12/17 Sun

Third Sunday in Advent

11:00 am **Joint Worship w/Royal Family,
w/Vacancy Pastor Matthew Cephus of Royal Family
and Retired Guest Pastor Paul Biebighauser**

12:00 pm **Holiday Luncheon**

6:00 pm NA

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Reading: Karmon Christopherson

Ushers, Altar Care & Counters: Morelli's

Attendance: 12/03/2023: 29

Audio/Video Upgrade

You might have notice Gloria Dei has new audio/video equipment installed through the sanctuary and upstairs choir loft. With a grant from the MN South District, GDLC was able to upgrade our A/V capabilities to be able to record and/or live-stream services going forward. The majority of the equipment was moved from the front of the church to the choir loft.

The installation was done by Orlin Palm and his son, Kyle at no cost to us.

On Sunday, December 17, we will be hosting a Goodwill Door Offing which will be given entirely to Orlin and Kyle in appreciation for their hard word and graciousness they have shown us by taking on this enormous project!

Please give generously! **Thank You!**

TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

December 10

"A-T Walker"

(Isaiah 40:3)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A wilderness can be scary, but if someone is with you who knows the way out, you're not really lost.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

December 17

"Life After Landing"

(Isaiah 61:1-2)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

What happens when a passenger suddenly has to be the pilot? Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about the power of words to save.

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

STEWARDSHIP: *Advent 2*

2 Peter 3:11 – “Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness?” All the things of the earth have an expiration date: “Good until the last day.” On that day, all these things will be dissolved. The things that seem so important now will simply cease to be. Peter issues this to us as a challenge: Since this is so, what kind of life should we be living? What should your priorities be? On things? Or on the things of God?

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

“You might not be impressive by the world’s standards. You might be a third-shift worker, a nameless neighbor, or a sinner who messed up in very public ways. But the angel declared good news for all people, which logically must include you. So, rejoice today! A Savior was born to you!” *Pastor Mike Novotny, Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Main Street Living Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with a special presentation produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries titled, “Red Boots for Christmas.” A shoemaker learns the true meaning of Christmas. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. Dennis Brech from Trinity Lutheran Church in Slayton, MN, presenting a message titled, “Hello, John” based on Mark 1:1-8. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the “Twin Cities” tab.

BIRTHDAYS: 13th Dorothy Pempton, 16th Dolores Kluwe, 16th Pat Vogel
ANNIVERSARIES: None

ETERNAL CANDLE: Shirley Holzinger – Nephew Adam’s Birthday, December 5
FLOWERS: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann – In Loving Memory of Patty’s Mom’s birthday, Dec 11.

PRAYER CONCERNS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Robert & Delores Kluwe, Larry Schlais, Lillian Troiden and all our shut-ins

Gwen Johnson – ultrasound results were good (heart/lungs)! Ongoing monitoring.
John (Meridel and Patty’s brother) who had a kidney transplant (few years back), transplanted kidney may now be failing(?), biopsy scheduled. Prayer for good results
Butch Morelli – Blocked carotid artery, surgery postponed; continued prayers
Yvonne Pawlowicz (Wenda’s sister) surgery for cancerous brain tumor and benign cyst went well, radiation will be needed, prayers for recovery
Amy Rich (Morelli’s DnL) – successful surgery for recent breast cancer diagnoses, treatment to follow
Cory – Tom & Patty’s nephew – Open heart surgery, now recovering
Nonie Wakeman (Shirley Slagle’s SnL) diagnosed with Lung Cancer
Greg Henderson (Vicki’s Husband and Shirley Holzinger BnL) Prostate Cancer
Karen (Karmon’s sister) Recently diagnosed with cancer (Warren’s wife)
James Norman, Sr. (James’ dad) Being treated for Stage 4 cancer
Kurt Nowacki (Bruce & Julie Cross’ Brother-in-Law) recently diagnosed with ‘myopathy,’ a degenerative muscle disease
Jeremy (Patty and Meridel’s niece, Mandy’s husband) prayers for recovery
Rod DeKam (Dale’s brother in law) has pancreatic cancer
Bruce (Wenda Schwoch’s BiL has stage 4 prostate cancer and **Ashley** (Wenda’s niece) continued prayers
John (Karmon/Meridel SnL) has been diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML), prayers for good results on continued cancer treatments
Roxie Johnson (Morelli’s niece) heart issues, pacemaker implanted, continued prayers
Warren (Karmon’s BnL) Receiving chemo and radiation for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
Ty (Wade Billmeyer’s Friend of a friend) continued prayers
Amy Price (Morelli’s niece) – treatments for stage 4 cancer
For First Responders/Health Care Workers, including James Norman, an ICU nurse
THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN DANGEROUS AREAS

NOTE: Those “in our extend prayers” are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.

Gloria Dei and Royal Family will hold a Joint Service on Sunday, December 17 at 11 am (note later start time) followed by a Potluck Holiday Luncheon. Guest Pastor Paul Biebighauser, Retired Pastor from Christ Victorious, will be preaching. Sign up to bring a dish to share. See you there!

Mark Your Calendars!

It is with delight and excitement we announce Pastor Matthew Cephus will be installed at Gloria Dei on January 21, 2024 at 3 pm. Please plan to attend this joyful event.

POINSETTIA'S: **TODAY** is the last day to order a Poinsettia for the Holiday display. The plants will be ordered from Bachman's and are **\$16** for an 8" double plant. Colors are **red, white or pink**. *You can also bring in your own poinsettias, but please still sign-up.*☺ A Sign-up sheet is posted on the entryway bulletin board. **Thank you!**

CHRISTMAS TREE

Today is the last day for toy collection for the Salvation Army. Purchase any **new** gift for children ages 0-14 years old. Place your unwrapped gifts under the Christmas tree in the Lobby. As in the past years, the Salvation Army's auditor has requested we add the monetary value of the gifts donated. Please add an estimated dollar amount to the items you leave under the tree. **Thank you so much.**



St. Timothy's Community Dinner

Drive Thru Community Dinner, Tuesday, December 12 – 5:00-6:30 pm (or until the food is gone). Free and open to all, everyone is welcome, so spread the word!! St. Timothy's is located at 825 51st Ave NE, Columbia Heights.

Christmas Services

Saturday, December 16th, 5 pm *Caroling Service**

Sunday, December 17th, 11 am *w/Holiday Luncheon**

Christmas Eve, December 24th, 10 am

Christmas Day, December 25th, 10am

**Note both December 16 & 17 are Joint Services with Gloria Dei and Royal Family*