

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



**“GOD CAN USE ANYBODY”**

***Part III***

**Order of Worship February 18, 2024 | 10 AM**

**The First Sunday in Lent**

**Pastor Matthew Cephus**

**3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418**

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**Guest Pianist Karrie Kikeh**

# 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:** Regardless of what we've been through in life, God still wants to use us for his glory.

*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 assistance 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. e.

**NO bible study on Wednesday, February 21.**

**Bible study at 5:30 pm on Thursday, February 22.**

**Everyone is Welcome!**

Thank you Guest Pianist Karrie Kikeh for your willingness to join our service today!

# The First Sunday in Lent

**AS WE GATHER:** The bottom line for every one of us is that God is still writing our stories. Your story is not over yet. The missing pieces of your puzzle are in the safest hands of all, even if you can't see them right now. How do I know that? That's who He is. That's His story.

*+ CONNECT +*

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING SOLO**

**"Blest Are They"**

**Bruce Cross**

**INVOCATION**

**L:** Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

**CONFESSION OF OUR SINS**

**L:** Let us confess our sins unto our heavenly Father who loves us.

**C:** **Heavenly Father, we confess that too often we think that we know best. We insist on charting our own course, and we don't feel we can completely trust anyone but ourselves. But we are wrong. You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. You are the hope of nations. You are our King. You are our resurrected Lord. You are the one who forgives our sins. You are the one who loves us more deeply than we can ever imagine. Teach us to live like You. Amen.**

**FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED**

*+ NURTURE +*

## SONG OF PRAISE

## "Blessed Assurance"

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

### Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight!  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **[Refrain]**

Perfect submission - all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. **[Refrain]**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

**Genesis 50:15-21**

### *God's Good Purposes*

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## **EPISTLE READING**

**2 Corinthians 4:8-12, 15-18**

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**John 9:1-4**

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

### ***Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind***

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## **SONG OF THE DAY**

**"Amazing Grace"**

**LSB 744**

*Text & Tune: Public domain*

Amazing grace – how sweet the sound – that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail and mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail in heaven's joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

## **MESSAGE Part III: "GOD CAN USE ANYBODY" 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.**

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
 What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
 Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear--  
 All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
 We should never be discouraged-- Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?  
 Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness-- Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden, Cumbered with a load of care?  
 Precious Savior, still our refuge--- Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Do your friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

**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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## OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

**2/18 Sun**

### **First Sunday in Lent**

**10:00 am** **Worship with Holy Communion,  
w/ Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship Service

3:00 pm Alpha Class

6:00 pm NA

**2/19 Mon**

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

**2/20 Tues**

**5:00 pm GDLC Council Meeting**

**2/21 Wed**

**NO Mid-Week Service and/or Bible Study**

**2/22 Thurs**

**5:30 pm Thursday Evening Bible Study**

**2/23 Fri**

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

**2/24 Sat**

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

**2/25 Sun**

### **Second Sunday in Lent**

**10:00 am** **Worship with Holy Communion,  
w/ Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship Service

3:00 pm Alpha Class

6:00 pm NA

## SERVING TODAY

**Elder: Karmon Christopherson**

**Reading: Verlayne Sather**

**Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Altar Care: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Counters: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Attendance 2/11/2024: 28**



## **TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR**

**February 18**

**"Redeeming DIY"**

**(Mark 1:12-13)**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about spiritual growth in the season of Lent and dying to self in a "do-it-yourself" world.

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

**February 25**

**"When Winning Is Losing"**

**(Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31, Romans 5:1-11, Mark 8:8-27)**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes

In Christ, losing is winning and winning is losing. Dr. John Nunes explains what that means.

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](http://www.lutheranhour.org)

### **STEWARDSHIP: *Lent 1***

Mark 1:13 – “And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.” God the Father cares for Jesus even in the midst of His temptation in the wilderness. God cares for us in every situation as well. Jesus realized this and always acted from the basis of trust in God the Father’s provision. This is likewise the basis for our life lived in Christ: God cares for us, so we need not act out of fear or greed.

### **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

“The state can punish offenders, but it can’t give birth to law-abiding citizens. The state cannot love or nurture a child. It takes a family. A radical thought, that, but off limits in our public conversations swept clean of moral discourse. Pray that this will change.” *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Main Street Living** airs each Sunday at 9 a.m. on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. This week’s episode is **“Dangerous Moment”** – An affair on a business trip leads to tension at home. The worship service begins at 9:30 a.m. with Rev. David Baumgarn from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Onalaska, WI, presenting a message titled **“Light Is Meant to be Shared”** based on **James 1:17**. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) and select the “Twin Cities” tab.

**BIRTHDAYS:** None

**ANNIVERSARIES:** None

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** Sandy Westling, Grandson Chris' Birthday

**FLOWERS:** OPEN

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

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

**Wade Billmeyer**, continued prayers for good results, he will be obtaining a second surgeon's opinion for a second surgery on benign brain tumor; surgery scheduled for beginning of March.

**Briella (Meridel & Patty's 5 year old niece)** successful surgery to insert tubes in ears and remove adenoids because of hearing/speech issues, thank you for all prayers

**Pastor Jim Gullickson** (Sandy Westling's friend) hospitalized after stroke. Paralyzed on left side, feeding tube (unable to swallow food). Prayers for recovery; he will need a lot of PT, OT and Speech Therapy.

**Leilani** (Sandy Westling's niece) recovering from traumatic brain injury

**John** (Meridel and Patty's brother) transplanted kidney issues, continued prayers

**Butch Morelli** – Blocked carotid artery, surgery postponed; continued prayers

**Yvonne Pawlowicz** (Wenda's sister) surgery for cancerous brain tumor and benign cyst went well, new complications, continued prayers

**Amy Rich** (Morelli's DnL) – ongoing treatment after successful surgery for breast cancer

**Cory** – Tom & Patty's nephew – Open heart surgery, now recovering

**Nonie Wakeman** (Shirley Slagle's SnL) diagnosed with Lung 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

**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**

## Easter Services

**Palm Sunday**, March 24 Worship Service, 10 am

**Maundy Thursday**, March 28 Worship Service, 5:30 pm

**Good Friday**, March 29 Worship Service, 5:30 pm

**Easter Sunday**, March 31 Joint Worship Service, 11 am with guest Pastor William Utech

### **Do you have items you can donate to the GDLC Garage Sale?**

Do you have unwanted things around your house that are taking up needed space and you want to get rid of? Start gathering now for the Third Annual Garage Sale! Spring date is not set, but GDLC is currently gathering items to sell.

Talk to Mary Piper if you need additional information.

### **NEED TO CATCH UP ON GLORIA DEI'S RECENT SERVICES?**

Check out our website, where you will find a "Watch Live" *click here to watch* section on our Homepage, you will then be redirected to Gloria Dei's YouTube page, where you will always find the last Sunday's service. To view previous Sunday services click "Live" (Home Videos **Live** Community) you will then be taken to the page with the previous Sunday services, click on the one you want to watch.

### Please Help Make Our Sunday Services a Success!

Gloria Dei's Sunday Services are always in need of Usher help and/or Altar Care assistance. If you need a refresher course on either, please let the office know and training can be arranged. Also, if you have a favorite "sweet treat" recipe you can bring to share during Sunday's Fellowship following each 10 am service (it doesn't have to be homemade ☺), please sign up for the week tht works best with your schedule.

All sign-up sheets can be found on the entryway bulletin board.

Merciful Father, may this season of Lent not merely be a season of forty days but also a lifestyle of continual vigilance to the severity of my sins and to the fullness of Your forgiveness. May I be continually aware that through Jesus' suffering and death on my behalf, this forgiveness is mine, today and every day. For all the ashes of broken dreams, disappointments, and betrayals, You are the resurrection healer. Replace the ashes of my sinful life with joy in the Gospel of Jesus, in whose name I pray. Amen.

