

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



“How to Avoid Running on Empty”

Order of Worship August 18, 2024 | 10 AM
Pastor Matthew Cephus

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Pianist: Martin McGinn

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: To ourselves and others, we may appear successful. But our depleted "fuel tanks" threaten to leave us stranded on the roadside of our spiritual journey. As a car can still look good, although the fuel tank is empty, so also can we still look good to others when our souls are empty, but we are spiritually ineffective.

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.

Pastor Matthew will be on a Mission trip in Uganda, East Africa from August 19 - 27. We wish him safe travels!

The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER: As a low fuel tank creates mental stress, so also does the soul that is low on spiritual fuel. We need to watch the fuel gauge. And when we realize that the tank will soon be empty, it's time to refuel.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN **"Just as I Am, Without One Plea"** **LSB 570 v. 1, 2, 5, 6**
Text & Tune: Public Domain

Just as I am without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bids't me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not, To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot. O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown, Has broken every barrier down.
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone. O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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 truly loves us.

C: **Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the**

blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

+ NURTURE +

SONG OF PRAISE

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow: If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE READING

Colossians 1:24-29

Paul's Ministry to the Church

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but

now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:28-30

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

LSB 423

Text & Tune: Public domain

Jesus, refuge of the weary, blest Redeemer, Whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above;
Often have Your eyes, offended, gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding, breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, see Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us calms the sinner's deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning, with more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning to behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never from the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, dwell the cross, the Crucified.

MESSAGE

"How to Avoid Running on Empty"

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 SONG

"Standing on the Promises of God"

Standing on the promises of Christ, my King,
Through eternal ages let his praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain:

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail.
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain

Standing on the promises of Christ, the Lord,
Bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my all in all,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain

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

8/18 Sun

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

8/19 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

8/20 Tues

5:00 pm **GDLC Council Meeting**

8/23 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

8/24 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

8/25 Sun

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am **Worship w/Holy Communion,
with Guest Pastor Ben Kangar**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Reading: Verlayne Sather

Ushers: Julie Cross

Altar Care: Julie Cross

Counters: Sandy Westling and Tom Harris

Attendance: 8/11/2024: 29

SACA's free produce distributions

Southern Anoka Community Assistance will distribute free produce in partnership with Second Harvest Heartland on August 24 from 8:30-11 am (or while supplies last). SACA Food Shelf distributes up to 10,000 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables at each event. Distribution takes place in the SACA parking lot at 627 38th Ave NE. These events are completely free and open to the public. No need to sign up. Attendees remain in their cars and drive up to SACA's parking lot to pick up their boxes of produce.

BIRTHDAYS: None

ANNIVERSARIES: 22nd Tim and Norma Harris

ETERNAL CANDLE: None

FLOWERS: None

PRAYER CONCERNS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Gwen Johnson, Robert & Delores Kluwe, Larry Schlais, Pat Scott and all our shut-ins

Barb McDonald knee replacement surgery

Wade Billmeyer Upcoming radiation

Roselyn Norman safe travels and stay while in Liberia (6/08/24 – 9/04/24)

Roselyn Norman's neighbor and friend, Tom, was recently diagnosed with State 3 kidney and liver cancer

James Norman, Sr. (James' dad) Prayers for a successful treatment for prostate cancer

Meridel Christopherson surgery to insert a stint in her main artery was unsuccessful, will re-evaluate at an upcoming appt

Kim Morelli (Morelli's DnL) recovering from breast cancer surgery on May 1

Jim (Gwen Johnson's brother) reoccurring issues due to his time in the Service

Pastor Jim Gullickson (Sandy Westling's friend) suffered a stroke, continuing rehab, using a wheelchair

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

Butch Morelli Blocked carotid artery, surgery postponed, continued prayers

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

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

Karen (Karmon's sister) Recently diagnosed with cancer (Warren's wife)

Kurt Nowacki (Bruce & Julie Cross' Brother-in-Law) recently diagnosed with 'myopathy,' a degenerative muscle disease

Bruce (Wenda Schwoch's BnL 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

TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

August 18

"The Child Glad to Be Born"

(Luke 2)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Archives August: The Child Who wanted to be born can make you glad to be alive! That joy for living comes when you hear His story.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

August 25

"When the Monsters Come"

(Job 40:15-41:34)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Archives August: We can never be too vigilant against the devil's attacks but in Christ we can always be confident that the victory is ours.

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: Proper 15 – Ephesians 5:6–7

"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them." The wrath of a God is a real thing, and we would do well to reflect on this. We want to stay away from anything that would take us away from the Lord. As Mary replied to the angel Gabriel, "I am the handmaiden of the Lord, may it be to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). We are the Lord's servants; therefore we cling to His Word.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"Through our vocations, both permanent and temporary, Christians are gifted opportunities to share the Gospel-motivated message that every life is valuable, and in so doing, carry the light of Christ into dark places filled with sin and death. It's true, this work won't always be easy; there may be times when we wonder about the path God has placed us on. But we can be confident that we aren't traveling alone. Christ goes with us, and His grace is sufficient. Always." *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. This week's episode is **"Look to the Mountain"** — A hopeless situation becomes more hopeless when a down and out man kidnaps a young girl for ransom money. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. David Petrich from St. James Lutheran Church in Holland, MN, presenting a message titled **"Wise in the Fear of the Lord"** based on **Proverbs 9:1-10**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.

Minnesota State Fair - August 22 thru September 2

With a history dating back to 1859, the Minnesota State Fair has long been a beloved tradition for Minnesotans and tourists alike. Spanning over 12 days, the fair showcases a wide array of attractions, including live music performances, thrilling rides, unique food offerings, impressive livestock exhibits, and much more. The Minnesota State Fair is a world-class showcase of Minnesota's finest in agriculture, arts, industry and entertainment. It is a self-supported organization that has received no public money since 1949 and has been held on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds since 1885, a 320-acre parcel of land located between St. Paul and Minneapolis. The land was officially donated by Ramsey County to the state of Minnesota in 1885. Previously, the grounds were a 210 acre poor farm, and over the years expanded to accommodate the fair's current size.

Grab a Pronto Pup and get ready to discover some surprising fun facts about the "Great Minnesota Get-Together!"

- How big is the Fair? It's no mere carnival! Minnesota's fair is historically the second most-attended state fair — trailing only Texas — but is firmly No. 1 in terms of daily attendance. More than 1.8 million people attended over 12 days in both 2022 and 2023, with a record of 2.13 million set in 2019. It features more than 900 food vendors, 300 arts and crafts exhibits, and countless entertainment options.
- Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt delivered the famous "Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick" speech at the Minnesota State Fair in 1901. Later known as the "Big Stick Policy", it was a foreign policy that advocated the use of caution and diplomacy, backed by the use of power if needed.
- Princess Kay of the Milky Way is crowned at the fair every year, becoming one of the highlights. This tradition dates back to 1954 and honors young women who are passionate about dairy farming and agriculture.
- The Giant Slide is a fair favorite and is a beloved attraction at the MN State Fair. Standing at 144 feet tall, it provides a thrilling ride for kids of all ages.
- The MN State Fair provides a platform for local businesses and artisans to showcase their products and crafts. From handmade jewelry to unique clothing items, there's plenty of shopping opportunities available.

These are just a few of the many fascinating facts about the MN State Fair. Whether you're a first-time attendee or a seasoned fairgoer, this annual event offers something for everyone to enjoy. So, grab your family and friends and join in on the fun. We'll see you at the Fair!

