

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



## **PART IV: "WHY THE CHURCH IS SO IMPORTANT TO GOD"**

**Order of Worship September 29, 2024 | 10 AM**  
**Pastor Matthew Cephus**

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

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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:** The church really matters in God's plan. God, incarnate in Jesus Christ, doesn't think of the church only instrumentally. It's not only a means of accomplishing God's eternal purpose. Rather, God in Christ loves the church. Out of love, Christ gave up his life for the church. Out of love, Christ washes and sanctifies the church. Out of love, Christ feeds and cares for the church. The church is not just Christ's project, but his bride, his beloved.

*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.



# The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**AS WE GATHER:** Only within the body of Christ do we find our unique value. The Bible says we're all different, but together we can accomplish what we could never do on our own. When we're a part of the body of Christ, we'll discover our niche—which is how we matter—in his work. You won't find this anywhere else except the church.

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING SONG

### "As the Deer"

### Psalm 42

*Martin Nystrom, © Copyright, 1984, this arr. © by Maranatha Music! CCLI # 1431*

As the deer pants for the water, So my soul longs after You.  
You alone are my heart's desire, And I long to worship You.

**Refrain:** You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
And I long to worship You.

I want You more than gold or silver, Only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real Joy-giver And on You I can rely.

**Refrain**

You're my friend and You are my brother, Even though You are the King.  
I love You more than any other. So much more than any thing.

**Refrain**

## 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 God, our Heavenly Father who truly loves us.

**C: Merciful Father, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

## FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

*+ NURTURE +*

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### "Oh How He Loves You and Me"

Oh, how He loves you and me, Oh how He loves you and me.

He gave His life, what more could He give?

Oh, how He loves you; Oh, how He loves me; Oh, how He loves you and me.

Jesus to Calvary did go, His love for sinners to show.

What He did there brought hope from despair.

Oh, how He loves you; Oh, how he loves me; Oh, how He loves you and me.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

### Deuteronomy 7:6-9

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **EPISTLE READING**

**Ephesians 3:4-6; 9-12**

When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. To bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 16:13-18**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## **SONG OF THE DAY**

**"In Christ Alone"**

**Keith Getty/ Stuart Townend**

*Copyright © 2001 Thankyou Music, EMI Christian Music Group, CCLI# 3350395*

In Christ alone my Hope is found, He is my Light, my Strength, my Song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, What depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, When strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh. Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day. Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory. Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine - Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

## MESSAGE

Pastor Matthew Cephus

### PART IV: "Why The Church is So Important to God"

#### 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****"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"****LSB 918***Text and Music: Public Domain*

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy pow'ful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee.  
I will ever give to Thee.

**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

9/29 Sun

### **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

11:45 am    Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm    NA

9/30 Mon

7:00 pm    Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm    AIAnon (upstairs)

10/02 Wed

**11:00 am**    **Bible Study, *The Chosen, Part 4***

10/03 Thurs

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

10/04 Fri

5:00 pm    Living Word Music Rehearsal

10/05 Sat

10:00 am    Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm    Living Word Prayer Night

10/06 Sun

### **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

11:45 am    Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm    NA

Are you interested in reading the scriptures at Sunday services?

It's easy! No training needed!

Call the church office at 612-781-1989 OR talk with Pastor Matthew.

## SERVING TODAY

**Elder: Karmon Christopherson**

**Reading: Verlayne Sather**

**Ushers: Dale Raschke**

**Altar Care: Open**

**Counters: Sandy Westling and Tom Harris**

**Attendance: 9/22/2024: 26**

**BIRTHDAYS:** October 3<sup>rd</sup> Pastor Matthew

**ANNIVERSARIES:** None

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** Shirley Holzinger – Anniversary (10/04)

**FLOWERS:** OPEN

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

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

**Roselyn Norman's** college friend and sister Famata Kamara and her two sons, Eric Golafaie, and and Naide Davis, for deliverance

**Amy Rich's mom** (Morelli's DnL) Kathy Rich, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer

**Kim Morelli's mom** (Morelli's DnL) Judy Crandal health issues

**Wade Billmeyer** Continuing proton radiation treatments at Mayco Clinic

**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

**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

**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**

**September 29**      **"Love at First Sight, Love That Lasts"**      **(Genesis 29:20)**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

God loved us at first sight, from eternity. And He has given us Jesus so that we can know His love.

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

**October 6**      **"Fit to Be Tied"**      **(Genesis 30:8)**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A strong knot in the right place holds everything together. God made Jesus to be the "Master Point" to bind all people to Himself through faith.

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:** *Proper 21 - Mark 9:45*

"And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell." So what is causing us to sin? Lust? Greed? Fear? Better to cut it off! We need the Lord's help to do this — and you are in the right place this Lord's Day to receive that help through Word and Sacrament!

## **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

"When we engage in the political process, we as Christians rightfully assert these rights, knowing that in doing so we are defending not only or even primarily ourselves, but our neighbors ... By asserting the right to life, and to other natural rights, we are in fact confessing God's given order." *Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, Concordia Theological Seminary – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://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 **"The Deadly Pen."** A businessman struggles with the guilt of another man's death. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. Jeffrey Williams, from Trinity Lutheran Church in Slayton, MN, presenting a message titled **"Salt" based on Mark 9:38-50**. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) and select the "Twin Cities" tab. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) select the "Twin Cities" tab.

## **THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY to RETURN OCTOBER 3 at 5:30 PM**

Gloria Dei is excited to announce the return of Thursday evening bible study. Join Daniel and Katie Beth Carlson on Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm as they explore the bible. As a reminder, Thursday night bible study is held right here at Gloria Dei. If you have questions, please connect with Daniel directly.

*See you there!*

## **Gloria Dei Annual Yard Clean-Up**

Saturday, October 19 beginning at 10 am (light lunch served at 12 noon)

Bring a rake and gloves and help with the yard clean up!

Leaves will need raking, Bushes will need trimming, Plants will need to be cut down

*"Many Hands Make Light Work" Nehemiah 3*

## **New Lift Needed at GLDC**

We have started the process of getting quotes and a new "Lift Replacement" fund has been set up. If you are interested in donating to this new fund, please mark your envelopes "Lift Fund". Thank you!

## **Thank You, Gracias, Merci, Vielen Dank**

Thank you to Tom Lyrenmann and Pam Morelli for the time and effort they put towards staining the pews in the church. Good job! They look much better!

Also thank you to Gwen Johnson for the amazing job she did on the weeds in the back alley, behind the church. Wow! She also cleaned the stains in the carpet in both the Fireside Room and behind the pews.

As always, many thanks to all the volunteers who help keep the church looking good and running smooth.

## **Fill Our Grocery Cart**

Gloria Dei recently donated 80 pounds of food to The Central Avenue Salvation Army, located at 2727 Central Avenue NE, Minneapolis. They are always in need of food and personal hygiene items to restock their shelves.

With the spike in requests for help, ongoing public support is needed to help ensure that services are available. Whenever there is a need in Minneapolis, you'll find the Salvation Army!

If you are in need of food, contact your local Salvation Army to find out where and how to receive a free box of groceries. It is only through the generosity of people that The Salvation Army can continue to provide services to those who are in need.

*Thank you to everyone for your generous giving!*