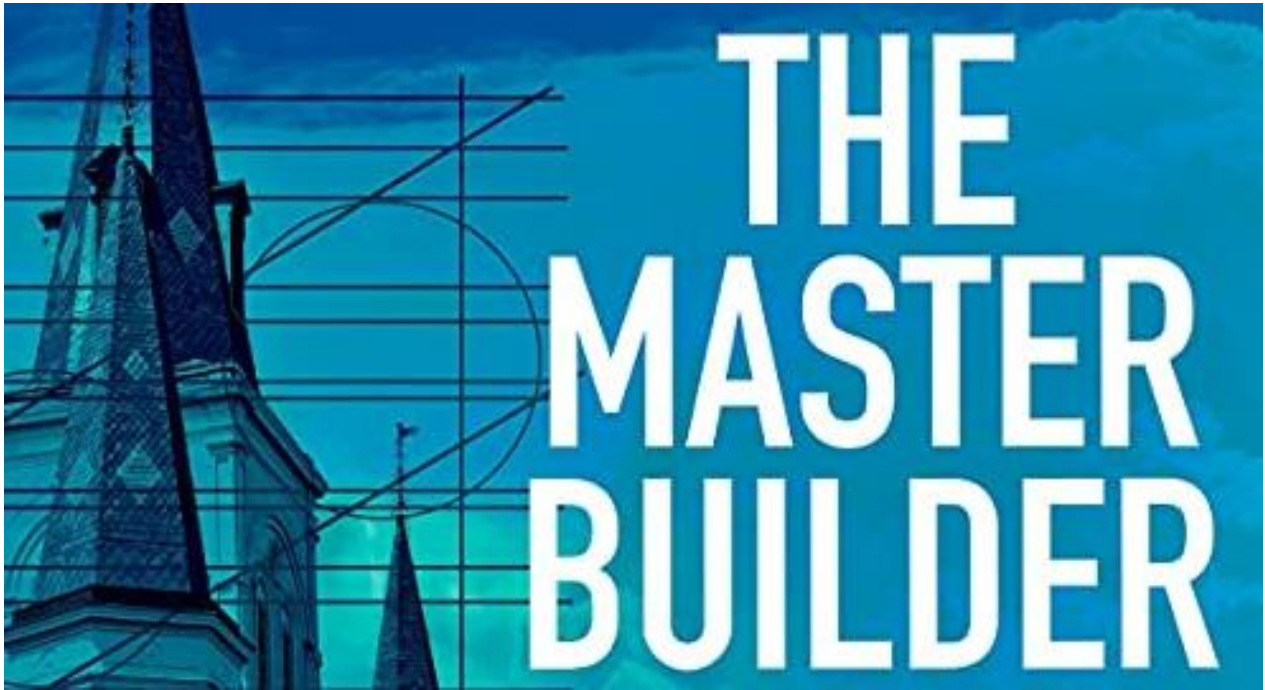


# **Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



## **Biblical Images of God: Part V– "The Master Builder"**

**Order of Worship Sunday August 17, 2025 – 10 AM  
Pastor Matthew Cephus**

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

**[www.gloriadeilcms.org](http://www.gloriadeilcms.org)**

**email: [info@gloriadeilcms.org](mailto:info@gloriadeilcms.org)**

**Pianist: Rebecca Tredray**

# Welcome to God's House!

*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:** As we continue our sermon series on the Biblical images of God, we'll take a look at God as a wise **Master Builder**. By trusting in him, aligning with his teachings, and allowing him to shape our lives, we gain stability and purpose. As a result, our lives remain steadfast even in uncertainty. What's more, we're called to join God in His work—building up others and participating in His mission to reunite heaven and earth. In the end, God is not just building something for us—He is building us into something lasting and eternal!

*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.

# Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

**AS WE GATHER:** Human beings are natural builders, but the problem is many of us build our lives on unstable foundations—worldly success, self-reliance, or fleeting ambitions—that ultimately collapse under pressure. The solution is to build on Jesus, who is the sure foundation and cornerstone of God's spiritual house.

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN

### "In Christ Alone"

**v. 1 & 2**

*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.

### 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 to our Heavenly Father who truly loves us and is ready to forgive.  
**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 +*

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

### **"In Christ Alone"**

**v. 3 & 4**

*Keith Getty/ Stuart Townend*

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

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.

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Job 38:1-10**

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me.

"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

"Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

## **Epistle Reading**

## **1 Corinthians 3:10-17**

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

## **Matthew 16:13-19**

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

### ***Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah***

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

**L:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY      "The Church's One Foundation"      LSB 644 v. 1-2, 4-5**

*Text and Tune: Public Domain*

The Church's one foundation, Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation, By water and the Word.  
From heav'n He came and sought her, To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Through toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation, Of peace forevermore;  
Till with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious, Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union, With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion, With those whose rest is won.  
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace,  
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

**MESSAGE**

**Matthew Cephus**

**Biblical Images of God: Part V – "The Master Builder"**

**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**

#### **"Almighty Father, Bless the Word"**

**LSB 923**

*Text and Tune: Public Domain*

Almighty Father, bless the Word  
Which through Your grace we now have heard.  
Oh, may the precious seed take root, Spring up and bear abundant fruit!

We praise You for the means of grace  
As homeward now our steps we trace.  
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here May all at last in heav'n appear.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### **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* +

+ + +

*Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. Hymns are copied with permission: CCLI # 689918*

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## **You're Invited**

Please join us in celebrating the 65th Wedding Anniversary of our beloved Karmon and Meridel Christopherson—a rare and beautiful milestone! To honor this special occasion, we will gather for an afternoon of joy, gratitude, and memories.

The festivities will begin with a special music program at 4 pm featuring cherished hymns and favorite songs that have marked their journey together. Following the program, dinner will be served in the Fellowship Hall (at approximately 5 pm) and all are invited.

Let us come together on Saturday, September 6 as a community to reflect on a legacy of steadfast love and to wish many more years of happiness.

Please RSVP to Lisa at 320-288-6743 before September 1 if you plan to attend.

### **SACA's free produce distributions**

Southern Anoka Community Assistance will distribute free produce in partnership with Second Harvest Heartland on the second and fourth Saturday of the month, July – September, 8:30-11:30 am (or while supplies last). Distribution takes place in the SACA parking lot at 627 38th Ave NE. SACA Food Shelf distributes up to 10,000 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables at each event. These events are completely free and open to the public. No need to sign up. Distribution will take place **Aug. 23**, Sept. 13 and Sept. 27. Attendees remain in their cars and drive up to SACA's parking lot to pick up their boxes of produce.

On August 5, Gloria Dei donated 16.2 pounds of food to the Northeast Salvation Army Food Shelf. Thanks everyone!

## **OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**8/17 Sun**

### **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

11:45 am     Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm     NA

**8/18 Mon**

7:00 pm     Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm     AIAnon (upstairs)

**8/19 Tues**

**5:00 pm**     **GDLC Council Meeting**

**8/20 Wed**

7:30 pm     SLAA Group Meeting

**8/22 Fri**

5:00 pm     Living Word Music Rehearsal

**8/23 Sat**

10:00 am     Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm     Living Word Prayer Night

**8/24 Sun**

### **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

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

11:45 am     Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm     NA

## **SERVING TODAY**

**Elder: Karmon Christopherson**

**Reading: Karmon Christopherson**

**Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Altar Care: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Counters: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Attendance: 8/10/2025: 25**

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## ***Thank You, Merci, Danke, Gracias, Grazie***

Thank you to those who contributed to the Lift Fund. The lift is now fully paid for and the account has been closed. If you'd like to support ongoing needs, please consider donating to the Building Maintenance Fund, as our aging building requires several restorations and repairs. Recent work included a new sump pump, cleaned drain tiles, and a replaced front downspout (which included new warming coils). The next major project, exterior painting, will start in three to six weeks. Contributions are appreciated.

**BIRTHDAYS:** None

**ANNIVERSARIES:** 22<sup>nd</sup> Tom and Norma Harris

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** OPEN

**FLOWERS:** OPEN

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Meridel Christopherson, Tom Farrell, Gwen Johnson, Robert & Dolores Kluwe, Al Morelli, Larry Schlais, Pat Scott and all our shut-ins

**Karen Charpentier** (Ken Biebighauser's sister) going through cancer treatment

**Pam Eilers** (Shirley Slagle's friend) recovering from a brain aneurysm (surgery)

**Danielle Ohnstad** currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer

**Diane Sharbono** undergoing cancer treatment

**Dorie** (Shirley Holzinger's sister-in-law) recovering from successful bypass heart surgery and is now in rehabilitation, plus addressing some unexpected issues.

**Nanc Rixe** knee replacement surgery June 16

**Karen** (Shirley H's neighbor) diagnosed with CML cancer and young friend **Allie Piercer** with Leukemia

**Alec Schwandt** (Pam's Nephew) continued prayers for health issues

**Trent Johnson** (Roxie's son) recovering from cancer surgery (stomach)

**Roxie Johnson** (Morelli's niece) heart issues (pacemaker), prayers as she gets stronger

**Kim Morelli** prayers for healing from recent surgery

**Mudy Mason** dealing with an autoimmune disease. Pray for strength, peace, hope, believing in God, Family, Mindset.

**James Norman, Sr.** (James' dad) Continued prayers, prostate cancer seems to be getting worse, he is having increasing pain and decreased mobility

**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

**Warren** (Karmon's BnL) Receiving chemo and radiation for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

**Amy Price** (Morelli's niece) upcoming procedures related to previous cancer diagnoses

**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.

## **TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR**

**August 17**

**"The Stuttering Man of Destiny"**

**(Exodus 4:10-12)**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Archives August--Dr. Oswald Hoffmann recounts the story of Moses.

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

**August 24**

**"Gideon, the Farmer General"**

**(Judges 6:1-8:27)**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Archives August--Dr. Oswald Hoffmann recounts the story of Gideon, an unlikely military leader.

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:** *Luke 12:51*

"Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." Jesus has come to divide us out of the world — to carve out a people for Himself, redeemed by His blood and trusting His Word. The world hates this Word, but for us it is life and salvation. We seek to follow Jesus' Word in all things because we know Him who gave us the Word: we know He always seeks to bless us

### **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

"Never apologize for sharing God's Word. Never excuse holding or defending a godly position that clearly states how a life issue stands according to Scripture. Abortion is wrong, as is assisted suicide, and many other life issues happening in our world." *Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Main Street Living** each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of *This Is the Life*. This week's episode is **"Two Weeks to Eternity"** — A man who lives life to the fullest faces uncertainty with the upcoming surgery. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. David Petrich from St. James Lutheran Church in Holland, MN, presenting a message titled **"Looking to Jesus"** based on **Hebrews 11:17-31, 12:1-3**. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) select the "Twin Cities" tab.