

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

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Pianist

As Scheduled

Ministers

All members of Gloria Dei

Caring Sharing Serving Reaching



2024

Worship Schedule for December

December 1 – First Sunday of Advent w/HC

December 8 – Second Sunday of Advent w/HC

December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent w/HC

Joint Worship service with Royal Family (NOTE: Start time is 10:30 am)

December 22 – Third Sunday of Advent

December 24 – The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve w/HC

December 25 – The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day w/HC

December 29 – First Sunday after Christmas w/HC

Advent

The Lord likes signs. That's because signs of the faith help us follow Jesus.

This Advent season is a sign for us to prepare for the coming of Christ.

The best signs point to Jesus. A good way to live during Advent is through the daily sign of the cross. It is good to fill our lives with signs of Christ.

God gave a great sign: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son"

(Isaiah 7:14). This marvelous sign gave an even more wondrous result:

Immanuel was born! We now know that Jesus is God with us. He is proof that

God has saved us from sin and death.

Season Greetings From Pastor Matthew . . .

“Ready or Not, Here I Come!”

The busy month of December is here – shopping, decorating, parties, concerts, family gatherings. There’s a lot crammed into a short period of time, and sometimes it can be overwhelming. There is so much going on! I often hear people ask, “Are you ready for Christmas?” My standard response goes like this: “The good news about Christmas is that whether we are ready or not, Christmas still comes.” What do I mean by that? When all is said and done, the blessing of Christmas is not dependent on us and all of our planning and preparation. The blessing of Christmas depends on God, who “when the fullness of time had come... sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons” ([Galatians 4:4-5](#)). That is what Christmas is all about: the gift of God’s own Son for you and for me; for all people.

Like most children, when my girls were little the game of “Hide and Seek” was great fun. As we all know, it involves everyone hiding, except for one person who does the seeking. After counting up to a certain number, the person who isn’t hiding calls out, “Ready or not, here I come!,” and then goes out to find those who are hiding. There is great anticipation and eager expectation as everyone waits to be found. Within the Christian Church, there is a season that precedes Christmas called Advent. Advent means “to come,” and the One who is coming is the One who has already come. The purpose of this brief, four-week season is not simply to prepare us to celebrate the Savior’s *first* coming; that is, his birth at Bethlehem 2000+ years ago (Christmas). The primary purpose of Advent is to prepare us for his *second* coming; that is, the day when Jesus Christ will call out, “Ready or not, here I come!” The return of Christ in great power and glory on that last day occupies our attention during the season of Advent, inviting us to be ready and prepared for that unknown day when he will come again. Until that day, the same Jesus who came once as a helpless baby comes to us now in his holy Word and Sacraments, offering gifts which only he can give: forgiveness, life, and salvation.

It’s hard to escape all of the messaging of the commercial world at this time of year. For the child of God, though, there is a deeper and more profound meaning to Christmas than just shopping, decorating, gift buying, going to parties and all of the other things that we associate with this holiday. In fact, the word “holiday” itself originates from the two words “holy day.” Behind the holiday of Christmas there is the holy day of Christ’s birth; his becoming flesh and dwelling among us here on earth. Behind all of the tinsel and glitter, there is the miracle of God’s love taking on human form. At Christ’s first coming in Bethlehem, God called out, “Ready or not, here I come!” Was the world ready for the Son of God? Perhaps they were no more ready then than we are now, and yet God was ready, and the gift was given. After his life, death and resurrection, Jesus promised that he would come again, and that is what we now wait and watch for. When God again calls out, “Ready or not, here I come!” will we be ready?

In these days of Advent that lead up to Christmas, I invite you to spend some quiet time studying God’s Word and in prayer. Reflect upon the gift of God given at Bethlehem so very long ago, the gifts which God gives to us today, and the gift of eternal life which we will fully know when Jesus calls out to each one of us: “Ready or not, here I come!”

Have a blessed Advent and a joyous Christmas!

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry, Newsletter article – December 2024

Repenting of “Yours” and “Mine”

Retailers have had their Christmas displays up since before Reformation Sunday. The kids have made their list and checked it twice, or three times or more. It won't be long before the tree will start shedding its needles, the stockings emptied, the gifts unwrapped, toys broken, and the too small or out of style clothes returned. Before we know it, the annual celebration of Christmas will be over.

But for the children of God, we know that the gift of Christmas doesn't ever end. Week in and week out, the Lord continues to shower His gifts on us. Every time the Lord gathers us to His house, and we are led to kneel at His table, the gift of forgiveness is repeatedly granted to us. It is nothing we deserve. It comes to us freely!

The fourth stanza of the stewardship hymn, “Forgive Us Lord for Shallow Thankfulness” (LSB 788) highlights both this gift and our response.

Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine, that gives as Christ gave, never counting cost

To learn thankfulness is necessary. The parents of young children are well-versed in the fact that they must teach their children thankfulness. It does not come naturally. The spiritual genetics inherited from our parents allow us to think that the world revolves around us. When we receive something, there is an inward desire to think that we in some way deserve it.

But there is no way that we deserve anything we get from our Lord. We need that ongoing lesson from God Himself. Thankfulness toward God is worked in us by the Holy Spirit. God's Word works this thanksgiving in us. We need this weekly reminder that Jesus didn't consider “equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself” for us, to the point of death on a cross (Phil. 2:6). He didn't bat an eye. He paid the price! Our life of stewardship is one of daily and weekly thanksgiving inspired by the Lord Himself.

That knows no barrier of “yours” and “mine,” assured that only what's withheld is lost.

Because Jesus gave us everything and more, there can be no ownership. The child at Christmas is quick to claim that the newly gifted toy is “mine!” But as Psalm 24:1 asserts, “The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.” There isn't anything in creation that is ours. When we cling to and claim ownership of anything in creation, we are losing out on the continual gifts with which the Lord desires to shower upon us. Closed hands cannot receive anything new. We cling to the old and dead and miss the new thing that the Lord desires to do in and for us.

We are led to repent of the “yours” and “mine” and remove the lie that we have any ownership. In this we have the promise that God will continue to give to us. Not just at Christmas, but every Sunday at the altar in the Lord's house.



Enjoy!

Together in mission

In the life of every congregation there are ups and downs; periods of growth and times of decline. In their years of mission and ministry in northeast Minneapolis, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church has seen its share of both. In recent years, however, the congregation seemed to be experiencing more valleys than mountaintops. When their long-time pastor retired, they had to face the reality that they were no longer able to carry the responsibility of calling a full-time pastor, so they turned to others for assistance.

For Gloria Dei, help came from the Minnesota South District and two sister congregations, St. Matthew, Columbia Heights, and St. Michael's, Bloomington. The three congregations have differences, but found they were united by a shared faith and desire to advance the Kingdom of God. With financial support from St. Michael's and the Minnesota South District, St. Matthew was able to call a pastoral candidate to their staff that could serve the saints of Gloria Dei and also serve as a mission developer in their shared northeast Minneapolis neighborhoods.

We are
All
in this
TOGETHER

But the story doesn't end there. At this same time, Christ Victorious Lutheran Church, Chaska, was seeking to plant a new multi-ethnic congregation, so they turned to the Minnesota South District's New Church Incubator for some of the funds their mission efforts required. The new Royal Family Lutheran Church was established, and

was soon looking for a location where they could worship together. Rev. Matthew Cephus and his congregation found a warm welcome at Gloria Dei.

But it gets better! Shortly after Gloria Dei had welcomed Royal Family into their building, their part-time pastor received a call to serve another congregation full-time. Now what would Gloria Dei do? This time, they found a willing pastor with a servant heart already in their building! Pastor Cephus agreed to serve both congregations, with the hope that one day the two congregations would be joined together in ministry as they are in their shared faith and mission focus.



Rev. Matthew Cephus

One joy of being in the Minnesota South District is the reality that no congregation, school, or their church workers need ever face the highs and lows of ministry alone. God has intentionally brought us together to be a blessing to each other. Because of the way you support the mission efforts of our district through your prayers and gifts, you've walked with St. Michael's, St. Matthew's, Gloria Dei and Royal Family on this joyful journey. Thank you for working with us in this partnership in the Gospel through your prayerful and financial support of collaborative efforts such as this.

With God's direction and by His grace, joint efforts like these will continue to shine the Light of Christ brightly through the workers and ministries of the Minnesota South District. Watch this space for more examples of how the congregations of our district are finding ways to *Go First!* in ministry together. We're excited about how God is leading us into the future and we invite you and your congregation to ongoing participation in this mission partnership. We invite you to learn more about how your individual and congregational gifts to the cooperative mission and ministry endeavors of the Minnesota South District help to make new efforts possible.

Dr. Phillip Johnson
District Assistant to the President,
Mission Formation



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Invites you to join our Christmas Services

Saturday, December 14th, 4:30 pm *Lantern Walth Through the Bible*

Sunday, December 15th, 10:30 am *Joint Service with Gloria Dei & Royal Family*

Christmas Eve, December 24th, 10 am *with Holy Communion*

Christmas Day, December 25th, 10am *with Holy Communion*



Lantern Walk Through the Bible December 14 from 4:30 – 7:30 pm

You are cordially invited to come along on the journey!

Presented in partnership by Gloria Dei's Evangelism Team and members of Royal Family Church, the **Lantern Walk Through the Bible** will feature “stations” along a snowy, lantern-lit pathway, highlighting Bible verses from Genesis through Revelation displaying God's great love and pursuit for us all. The Lantern Walk Through is a self-guided, go at your own pace, no tour guide event. At the end of the journey, experience the warmth from a firepit and enjoy roasting marshmallows as you sip hot chocolate, all while making new friends.

This **FREE** one-of-a-kind event is open to the neighborhood and surrounding community and will take place entirely on the church's lawn. Please dress warm! We realize this event takes place outside, however, if as you make your way through the snowy, lantern-lined paths, you find yourself feeling a bit chilly, stop by the warming room inside the church!





ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA'S:

Help to beautify our Altar for the Christmas season by donating a poinsettia! The poinsettias will be ordered from Bachman's and are **\$17** for an 8" plant. Colors are **red, white or pink**. If you would like to donate a plant, the **deadline is Sunday, December 8**. You will be billed directly from the church. *You can also bring in your own poinsettias, but please still sign up.* 😊

The sign-up sheet is posted on the entryway bulletin board or call the church office directly at 612-781-1989 to place an order.

Thank you!



HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH

All hands (and able bodies) are needed to help decorate the church for the holidays. Plan to come by church on Tuesday, December 3 beginning at 9:30 am. All help is welcome – the more the merrier! The coffee will be on.

Holiday Gift Basket Distribution

The Social Ministry Committee will be assembling Holiday Gift baskets, filled with fruit, treats and goodies. These baskets will be delivered to our dear shut-ins. If you know someone who would enjoy a gift basket or simply could use some cheering up during this Holiday season, please leave their name, phone number and address in the Secretary's mailbox. The group will make sure they receive a gift basket.



Salvation Army Christmas Tree Gift Collection

There is still time to bring in your gift donation. The Social Ministry Committee is collecting **new** gift items for children ages 0-14 for the Salvation Army. **Gifts will be collected through December 8th**. Bring your unwrapped gifts to Church and place them under the Christmas tree in the Narthex. As in previous years, the Salvation Army's auditor request we add the monetary value of the gifts donated. Please add an estimated dollar amount to the items you leave under the tree.

GIFT IDEAS:

BOYS 6-14: Legos, Play tent, Tonka Trucks, Walkie Talkies, Hot Wheels, Children's Camera, Remote Control Cars, Star Wars toys, NBA/NFL clothing and gear.

GIRLS 6-14: Barbie Dolls (multi-cultural), Children's Camera, Scooter, Bead/Jewelry Kits, Art Kits/Projects, Make-up kits, Hair Accessories.

Gloria Dei and Royal Family will hold a Joint Service on Sunday, December 15 at 10:30 am (note later start time). See you there!

2025 Donation Envelopes Available Now!

Please pick up your 2025 donation envelopes. You can pick up your box of envelopes at the back of the church. Your envelope number will remain the same as it was in 2024, no changes for 2025. Please begin using the new envelopes January 1, 2025.

In keeping with the season of Thanksgiving, it seems appropriate to thank everyone for their kind and generous giving through the year! Whether it is with weekly/monthly pledge offerings, donating your Thrivent Choice Dollars, volunteering for Altar Care, Ushering, Counting or bringing treats for Fellowship, commemorating an event and/or family member with Candles or Flowers, taking on various tasks around the church and church yard or serving on a board or council position. Everyone adds their touch to make GDLC special. Everything you do is greatly appreciated. It is what makes Gloria Dei a great place to worship. Thank you everyone for another wonderful year!



There are still 2025 calendar available on the Usher's Table at the back of the church. Feel free to grab one!

Graciously donated by Washburn-Mcreavy Funeral Home



THANK YOU, Operation Christmas Child Collected 22 Shoeboxes!

These simple gifts are all shipped outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease. The mission of Samaritan's Purse and Operations Christmas Child is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your generous giving!

If you have Thrivent Insurance, don't forget your Thrivent Choice Dollars! Call every month!

Gloria Dei was fortunate to receive \$194 in Thrivent Choice Dollars for the month of November. Wow! Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year. Call 1-800-Thrivent (1-800-847-4836). When asked for subject, say "Choice Dollars". When asked for a choice, press 1. Then answer the next question with your birth date. Then a Thrivent representative will answer. Tell them you want to direct your choice dollars to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3014 NE McKinley Street, Minneapolis.

Thank you so much for your generous giving!

Thursday Night Bible Study will Taka a Hiatus

Thank you to all who attended; however, Thursday night bible study will take a break after the January 2, 2025 session. Watch the monthly newsletter for more information on a return date! Also, no Thursday bible study on December 5th and December 26th.

Community Holiday Happenings



International Holiday Festival – December 1 @ 11:30 am - 4:30 pm

The Ukrainian American Community Center (UACC), 301 Main Street NE, will host an International Holiday Festival Sunday, December 1, from 11:30 am - 4:30 pm. Enjoy world folk dances, a bake sale, folk art and a crafts and gift sale. A Ukrainian ethnic luncheon will be available for purchase. Tickets: Adults, \$10; Children (6-12 years), \$5; under 6, free. It's a benefit for UACC, which provides many services to newly arrived Ukrainians and supports humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

Christmas Craft and Bake Sale – December 7 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 2114 – Fifth Street NE, will hold a Christmas Craft and Bake Sale, Saturday, December 7, 9 am - 1 pm. They will sell potato-cheese, sauerkraut and apple pierogi .

Friends of Northeast Library book sale – December 7 @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Bargain hunters and book lovers take note: Friends of Northeast Library will hold a used book sale on Saturday, December 7. Proceeds benefit Hennepin County Library.

Questions? Email northeast@supporthclib.org. 9 am - 4 pm; bag sale, 3 - 4 pm.

Flux Frost Fest – December 7 @ 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday, December 7, 11 am - 7 pm a holiday art show and sale bursting with handmade gifts by over 15 artists, craftspeople and artisan food vendors. Throughout the building you'll find a festive array of clay ornaments, jewelry, art kits, tiles, glass ornaments, chocolate and coffee. Participate in Create & Chill art projects by Art to Change the World and make-and take-clay projects at the Clay Squared Gallery. The first 25 attendees will receive free art from Art to Change the World interns. Potekglass and Clay Squared will hold sales during the event. Flux Arts Building, 2505 Howard Street NE.

Christmas Bazaar and Village Display – December 8 @ 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Holy Cross Rosary Guild will host its annual Christmas Bazaar and Village Display, Kolbe Hall, 1630 Fourth Street NE. "Sip & Shop Event" on Friday, December 6, 6 - 8 pm with music and sing along, crafts, baked goods and appetizers. Free admission with donations welcome. Saturday, December 7, 10 am - 6 pm: Snacks, baked goods. Free cookie decorating and crafts for children 11 am - 1 pm. Sunday, December. 8, 8 am - 2 pm, Village Display, coffee and rolls, crafts. Elevator entrance in alley.

Bake sale, craft sale and luncheon – December 8 @ 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church's annual bake and craft sale will be held on Sunday, December 8, 10 am - 1 pm. Includes homemade Ukrainian baked goods, handmade ornaments, crafts, Ukrainian embroidered shirts and Ukrainian artifacts. Free admission. Luncheon available 11 am - 1 pm. Includes hearty borscht, Ukrainian open face sandwich (kanapku) and beverage for \$10. 515 University Avenue NE.

Santa on the Fire Truck - December 11 @ 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Santa's Helpers at the St. Anthony Fire Department are joining Santa to spread some holiday cheer throughout the Village. The fun starts at 5:30 pm each evening and you can track Santa via GPS, just visit savmn.com. Monday, December 9: South of 34th Avenue NE & West of Silver Lake Road; Tuesday, December 10: South of 37th Avenue NE & East of Silver Lake Road; Wednesday, December 11: North of 34th Avenue NE & West of Silver Lake Road plus all of North of 37th Avenue. Donations for Toys for Tots (unwrapped toys, checks and cash) accepted.



CP Holiday Train coming to town -

December 12 @ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train will roll into the neighborhood Thursday, December 12. In its 26th year of operation, the train will stop at 37th and Stinson Blvd approximately 8:15 - 8:45 pm. The Lone Bellow and Tiera Kennedy are scheduled to perform. The train raises money for food banks in its areas of operation; East Side Neighborhood Services will be the beneficiary.

Pictures with Santa - December 14 @ 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Saturday, December 14, noon to 4 pm, Silver Lake Village Wine & Spirits, 2602 39th Avenue NE. Friendly, well-behaved dogs are welcome.

Holiday City Tour - December 17 @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The Columbia Heights Holiday City Tour takes place Tuesday, December 17, 5-6:45 pm. The Columbia Heights Fire Department, along with special guests, will drive around Columbia Heights with decorated vehicles. Following the tour, participate in holiday festivities at Murzyn Hall, 530 Mill Street: free cocoa, cider, cookies, crafts, games, photo opportunities and more. Sponsored by Magnifi Financial. Southern Anoka Community Assistance (SACA) and Magnifi Financial will collect toy donations for SACA along the route and at Murzyn Hall.

See the tour route at <https://columbiaheightsmn.gov/community/holidaycitytour.php>.

Northeast Community Band holiday concert - December 19 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The Northeast Community Band will present its annual holiday concert Thursday, December 19, 7 pm at Edison High School, 700 22nd Avenue NE. The free concert will feature a Morton Gould rendition of "Jingle Bells," as well as old favorites such as "Sleigh Ride" and "Auld Lang Syne." Free. Refreshments served after the concert.



Free community meal - December 7 @ 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1509 27th Avenue NE, will hold a free community meal Saturday, December 7, 5:30 - 7 pm. They promise good food and live music.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 a.m.

Hosted by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (unless otherwise noted)

December 1 "Will Everything Sad Come Untrue?"
(Jeremiah 33:16)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

A mother and her young son trade a life of privilege for one of poverty, a story that is borderline unbelievable, yet nonetheless true.

December 8 "Completely Ordinary Human"
(Malachi 3:7)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Everyone has a story to tell and yours can be one through which Jesus is working to make the world new again.

December 22 "Does It Matter If Jesus Is God?"
(Luke 2:10-11)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus sets a good example, but good examples can't help dead people. Only God's Son can make us alive again.

December 29 "No Getting Better Than This"
(Colossians 3:12-17)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Chad Lakies

The Good Life--what is it? Pastor Chad Lakies says life is truly good when it's life the way God meant it to be.

Main Street Living North

Main Street Living is an hour-long Lutheran television program that airs new episodes each Sunday morning. The Twin Cities program is broadcast **at 9 am**. Central time on WFTC channel 29/9-2. Each Sunday, viewers enjoy a 30-minute remastered episode of "This is the Life," a popular Lutheran Hour Ministries series from the 70s and 80s. The episode is followed by a modified Lutheran worship service—led by a different local pastor each week. Main Street Living (Twin Cities) is endorsed by the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; however, the program receives no funding from the District. It is totally funded by viewers and congregations of the WFTC viewing area.



Time of Grace

Time of Grace tv program airs globally via various outlets, but you can also search topics and watch the program at timeofgrace.org/tv-program. Each episode is a 30-minute study of God's Word with Pastor Mike Novotny. Pastor Mike Novotny has served God's people in full-time ministry since 2007 as a pastor in Madison and now Appleton, Wisconsin. He also serves as the lead speaker for the Time of Grace television program and contributes to the written resources of Time of Grace Ministry.

Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am
www.timeofgrace.org

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To help you stay rooted in Jesus by taking time out for God's Word every day. Subscribe to Time of Grace resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. It's easy to subscribe to resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just select which types of resources you would like to receive, and they will be sent right to your inbox!
<https://timeofgrace.org/subscribe/>

WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service called **Worship for Shut-Ins**. Each service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a Lutheran pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. Each program is closed captioned for the hearing impaired.

Weekly programs are broadcast on Total Christian Television (TCT) network -- *DIRECTV channel 377 at 10:30 am on Sundays OR* watch online on the homepage and in the "**Online Viewing**" portion of the website [www.worshipforshutins.org!](http://www.worshipforshutins.org)

OFFICIAL ACTS for November

None



December Special Occasions for Special People



2 nd Shirley Slagle 16 th Dolores Kluwe 16 th Pat Vogel 20 th Gwen Johnson 29 th Lyle Payette 31 st Katie Beth Stand	<i>No Anniversaries</i>
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DECEMBER SERVANTS

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Be sure to sign up for Altar Care and Usher duties.
Sign-up sheets located on the bulletin board in the Church lobby.

Thank you!

Counters

1 st	Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli
8 th	Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather
15 th	Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli
22 nd	Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer
24 th	Tom and Patty Lyrenmann
25 th	Tom and Patty Lyrenmann
29 th	Sandy Westling and Tom Harris

Candles

1 st	Shirley Holzinger – Nephew Adam's Birthday – December 5
8 th	OPEN
15 th	OPEN
22 nd	OPEN
24 th	OPEN
25 th	Sandy Westling – Happy Birthday Jesus
29 th	Shirley Holzinger – In Memory of Rudy's birthday, December 27

Flowers

1 st	OPEN
8 th	OPEN
15 th	OPEN
22 nd	OPEN
24 th	Christmas Poinsettias
25 th	Christmas Poinsettias
29 th	Christmas Poinsettias

*The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of
trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.*

– Nahum 1:7



December 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Sunday of Advent 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion 6 pm NA	2 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	3 9:30 am Decorate Church for the Holidays!	4 11 am Bible Study	5 <u>NO</u> 5:30 pm Bible Study	6 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	7 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
8 Second Sunday of Advent 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion Yearly Congregational Meeting (following 10 am service) 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA Last Day for Salvation Army Gift Tree Donations	9 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	10  Deliver Salvation Army Gift Tree Donations and Shut-In Baskets	11 11 am Bible Study	12 5:30 pm Bible Study	13 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	14 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4:30 – 7:30 pm Lantern Walk Through the Bible, Self-Guided Tour 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
15 Third Sunday of Advent 10:30 am Joint Worship Service (Gloria Dei + Royal Family) 6 pm NA	16 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	17 5 pm GDLC Council Meeting	18 <u>NO</u> 11 am Bible Study	19 5:30 pm Bible Study	20 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	21 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4 – 5 pm Living Word Board Meeting 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
22 Fourth Sunday of Advent 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	23 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	24 Christmas Eve 10 am Christmas Eve Service w/Holy Communion	25 Christmas Day The Nativity of Our Lord 10 am Christmas Day Service w/Holy Communion <u>NO</u> 11 am Bible Study	26 <u>NO</u> 5:30 pm Bible Study	27 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	28 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
29 First Sunday after Christmas 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	30 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AIAnon (upstairs)	31		Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 3014 McKinley Street NE 612-781-1989		



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

ADVENT: THE SECOND COMING — DECEMBER 1-15

Advent means coming. We anticipate the promised return of Christ as the judge of the world. We look with hope to the day of the resurrection of all flesh, when those who believe in Christ will rise to everlasting life.

The Church waits for the Second Coming in repentance, hope and faith. For the following, we pray “Lord, have mercy.”

- 1.** For hearts that imitate the generosity and graciousness of Jesus. Pray that God’s people would be eager to show forth the love of God through their good works for their neighbor.
- 2.** That the Lord would preserve His Word and Sacraments in our midst, so that we may be kept strong in the one, true faith until Christ’s return.
- 3.** That the people of God would be faithful in their attendance of the Divine Service, where God

strengthens our faith toward Him and our steadfast love for one another.

- 4.** That all people would fear God and find hope in His gracious forgiveness through Christ.
- 5.** For all who do not believe in Jesus, that they might hear the Gospel and believe.
- 6.** For all Christians, that we might repent of our sins and prepare for Christ’s return.
- 7.** For steadfast faith as the world writhes and groans in anticipation of the day of judgment.

8. For the ministers of the Word, that they would be faithful to their calling.

9. for the Church’s missionaries, that through them the Word would go forth into the world with power.

10. For our government, that we might live peaceable and quiet lives.

11. For parents, that they would see their role in raising children as a holy calling from God in these last days.

12. For patience, as we wait for Christ’s coming, that we might believe God is not slow in keeping promises, but patient.

13. For those who mourn the loss of loved ones, that the promise of the resurrection may be their hope.

14. For those who are dying, that they may entrust their whole lives unto God who keeps them.

15. For the coming of Christ. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



ADVENT: THE INCARNATION — DECEMBER 16-31

During Advent we rejoice that God sent His Son to be the redeemer of the world. We gather with all Christians to celebrate this gracious gift from our heavenly Father. We trust in Christ alone as our Savior.

The Church gathers to thank God and ask for faith to trust in His gift of a Savior. For the following, we pray “Lord, have mercy.”

16. For faithful reading of Old Testament, that all who read may see Jesus as the promised Savior.

17. For opportunities to proclaim the Gospel in this season. When the world is open to hearing the story of Christmas, may we be unashamed in our witness.

18. That all Christians might see the needs of their neighbor and love with the love of Christ.

19. For those who only attend worship at Christmas, that the Spirit would work faith through the hearing of the Word.

20. That we may believe the truth of the two natures of Christ.

21. For St. Thomas, apostle. That with him we might believe and confess that Jesus is Lord and God.

22. For faithful readings of the New Testament. That all the words of the apostles and evangelists may result in faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

23. For pastors who serve as Christ’s under-shepherds in our midst. That they might proclaim the truth of the Good News of Christmas.

24. Rejoice that Jesus is Immanuel. God is with us to save us.

25. Rejoice in the incarnation of Jesus Christ. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen His glory — glory as the only-begotten of God.

26. Thank God for St. Stephen, the first Christian



Martyr. That we might also serve God with our lives — thoughts, words and deeds.

27. That God would grant us faith to believe that He comes to us in the Means of Grace.

28. For all those who face depression and desperation at this time of year. That God’s gift of love in Christ would gladden their hearts.

29. For all those who travel. That God would grant them safety.

30. That all would know and believe in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus for the world’s salvation.

31. That the Lord would abundantly bless the efforts of the LCMS and its partners in the coming years. That the Gospel is the primary focus of all that is done and proclaimed.

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