

2017



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

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Caring Sharing Serving Reaching

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

June 4 PENTECOST SUNDAY HC "Come, Holy Spirit" John 7:37-39

Number 11:24-30; Psalm 25:1-15; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39

June 11 TRINITY SUNDAY "As It Was in the Beginning, Is Now, and..."

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; Acts 11:19-30, 13:1-3; Matthew 28:16-20

June 18 Pentecost 2A HC "What a Harvest!" Matthew 9:35- 10:20

Exodus 19:2-8; Psalm 100; Romans 5:6-15; Matthew 9:35- 10:20

June 25 Pentecost 3A Guest Pastor Rev. David Hinck

Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 91:1-10; Romans 6:13-23; Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

THE PENTECOST SEASON

Like the Season after Epiphany, the Season after Pentecost begins and ends with what we might call "bookend Sundays." These Sundays provide the frame for what comes between them. Trinity Sunday is the first of these. Christ the King, the second. Trinity Sunday launches us into our ministries after Pentecost with a celebration of the Triune God in whom all our lives and ministries are grounded. Christ the King, points us to our final destination in the culmination of the reign of the one who makes us and all things new. That is not the case for the Sundays between these bookend Sundays.

The Old Testament readings during Pentecost were not chosen to relate to the others except for a thematic link. So please do not spend time too much trying to figure out the "secret" connection between the Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel readings during these weeks. There isn't one, and that's by design. So during these months, nearly half the Christian year, the lectionary offers you three parallel choices of series of semi-continuous readings in the Epistle, and Gospel.

Prophetic Ministry— Year A is the "year of the promises" shared in the Old Testament with many readings from Isaiah. Interspersed with Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Jeremiah, Zechariah, Amos, and even one from Job!

Mission in the World but not of the World: The Epistle readings in Romans, Philippians and 1 Thessalonians are climaxed with the final reading from 1 Corinthians 15, the resurrection chapter which consistently keep that tension of the Gospel promises alive. Throughout these letters, there is a consistent focus on how being disciples of Jesus makes us different from "things as usual."

Learning from the Master: The Gospel for this year is entirely from Matthew with the readings from chapters 9-25 covering all of the major discourses of Jesus except the Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5-7) that was dwelt with during the Epiphany season. The year concludes with parable of the sheep and goats judgment (25:38-48) on Christ the King Sunday.



Witnessing as Jesus did

We can come up with cutesy and clever ideas for outreach; but, if we are not following Christ's lead, there is no purpose to evangelism. To make sure that we are following the footsteps of Christ I felt the need to go back to the Word to read how Christ witnessed during His ministry on earth. The stories in Matthew were exceptionally helpful in this quest.

In my Bible, the section consisting of Matthew 4:12-17 is titled "Jesus begins preaching." What does He preach? In verse 4:17, it says exactly what He preached: ***"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."*** Of all the words in the dictionary, these are the eight words He chose very precisely. He called for repentant hearts for His children to enter the kingdom of heaven which would/will come on an unexpected - yet near - day.

How did Jesus engage the people? In Matthew, chapters 4 thru 7, it shows that He spoke of the real issues that people were facing: murder, divorce, swearing by oaths, vengeance (an eye for an eye), dealing with enemies and judging others. He heard their questions and saw their hearts. And, by this, He recognized where they were at and how He needed to minister to them. (Who are you ministering to? What is their heart? What relevant issues can you discuss to reach them where they are?)

How did He relay the message? He used relatable terms that they could understand. He was speaking to builders and farmers. He grounded His parables on stories that they could draw from: The man who built His house upon a rock and being fruit-bearing trees.

Who did He reach out to? In Matthew 9:12, He said: ***"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."*** He ate with Matthew, a tax collector -one who the Pharisees separated as a "sinner." He spoke with women - those who were disenfranchised at that time. He brought encouragement and a call-to-action to Mary Magdalene, a prostitute.

When did He witness? Not when He was comfortable. Not when He was in a good mood. His life was a witness. He witnessed when the Holy Spirit led Him to, to whom the Holy Spirit led Him; and He did so immediately. He responded to the need of the people.

Matthew 9:35-37 gives us a summary of Christ's life as a witness: ***"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd."***

Let me ask you: Where can you be a witness? It may not be easy, much like the jeering Jesus faced at the synagogues. But, like Him, will you continue to preach the good news of the kingdom of heaven? Who are you called to have compassion on? Who is the Holy Spirit leading you to reach out to? Who do you know that is helpless, in need of a Savior?

Jesus was bold. And, He told His disciples to boldly go out into the world as His witnesses: "Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few'" (Matthew 9:38). We, like Jesus, are to be bold workers for the kingdom of heaven.

What's Happening at Gloria Dei?

KOA/ 50+

KOA will meet Thursday, June 15th at noon. Our theme will be "Monkey Business" and we will learn about monkeys. The menu will be a surprise. The cost will be \$7. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board if you want to join us for this fun KOA+ meeting.

SALVATION ARMY FOOD SHELF

Please remember those less fortunate by filling our grocery cart. Things that are needed are canned fruits & vegetables, soups and spaghetti sauce and noodles, canned beans, macaroni & cheese, tuna, crackers, jelly, peanut butter, cereal, etc. Donations of personal hygiene items, diapers, and household cleaning items are also in demand, such as: Toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant, bar soap, shampoo, diapers (sizes 1,4,5,6 or overnight), baby wipes, laundry soap (small packages 2-4 loads), dish soap, and various household cleaners. Remember these items as you are shopping. Thanks to all of you for the donations! We collected 98 lbs. in May.

SPRING FLING THANK YOU

The Board of Social Ministry would like to thank all those who donated their time and talents to help make the Spring Fling a success. We hope you enjoyed The "GraceNotes" concert as well as the delicious desserts. It was a nice evening out!

Be sure and look for the 2017 sign-up sheets for Altar Care, Flowers and Candles on the entryway bulletin board. Find a partner and sign up for a month of Altar Care. Sign up early to get the month you want. How can you help to beautify the altar area at Gloria Dei? Thanks to all who helped with altar duty during the first half of 2017!

Altar Care is still open for July, September & October.

- Pam Morelli & Patty Lyrenmann.

Fellowship Sundays: There are still openings for Fellowship serving: September 10, October 8, November 12 and December 10. If you want, ask a friend to help you host one of these days. Our time of Fellowship brings us together over good food, good friends and great "church" family.

CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS, as of April 30, 2017

		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	
April Total Income	\$14,828.50	1st Quarter Net Loss	\$ 5,397.28
April Total Expense	\$13,139.69	2nd Quarter Net Gain	\$ 1,688.81
April Net Gain	\$ 1,688.81		

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

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

Hosted by Rev. Gregory Seltz (unless otherwise noted)

June 4 "Filled, to Overflow!"

Isolation, distraction, and pride can lead to spiritual numbness, but Jesus fills us with life that overflows to bless others.

(John 7:37-39)

6/11 "Never Alone" (Matthew 28:16-20)

You can be certain about the place to meet God, His plan of salvation, and His presence.

6/18 "Look Back, See What God Has Done"

God not only kept His side of the bargain-- He kept our side of the bargain, too. (Exodus 19:2-8)

June 25 "What God Says"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Cameron MacKenzie

Are you listening to what "they" say-- or what God says? (Isaiah 43:1-3)

Time of Grace

Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style.

Pastor Mark Jeske

St. Marcus Lutheran Church,
Milwaukee, WI

KMSP Fox 9 Sunday 6:30 am

Freeform TV Thursday 3:30 pm

TBN TV Thursday 3:30 pm

www.timeofgrace.org

Orphan Grain Train – Pastor was able to bring a box FULL of socks and undies with him to his Pastor's Conference. Thank you so much to all to brought their donations for this worthwhile cause. **See May/Spring Offering which continues this work.**

OFFICIAL ACTS DURING MAY

Funeral John Svac May 5th

Baptism Quincy Zupetz May 27th
Daughter of Shirley Zupetz

May /Spring Offering 2017

MAY/SPRING OFFERING

In May the Board of Stewardship has designated the annual May/Spring Offering to go to the Orphan Grain Train.

These donations are used to support programs and projects where we witness, show mercy and walk with one another in our Christian life together. The Board of Stewardship's main focus is to retain our mission focus. Please use the May offering envelope that is in your regular offering envelope box. Prayerfully consider your gift for this venture.

UPDATE NOTE FROM STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:



"Hurry up! It's my time to go to school." says one child to another as they impatiently wait for their sibling to take off the shoes and socks they wore to school that morning and hand them to their sibling so they can attend school in the afternoon.

According to Eugene Pashe of the Orphan Grain Train, this is a normal, daily event during the school year around the border towns of El Paso and Del Rio in Texas. The recipients of the Orphan Grain Train shipments are:

- * Pastor Carl Heimer who is located at the Ysleta Mission in El Paso. He has established 12 mission stations on both sides of the border in the past 35 years.
- * Pastor Gary Martin is located in Del Rio and stems from Crookston.

These two Pastors receive: food, health kits, school kits and clothes from the Orphan Grain Train.

We will be accepting sock and undie donations for this drive into July.



THANK YOU SO MUCH for the cards, loving thoughts, and continued prayers as I strive to make progress after my spinal surgery. It is a slow process but, God willing, a successful road to recovery.
Blessings Karmon Christopherson

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

***If you have Thrivent insurance, don't forget your Thrivent Choice Dollars!
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.
A Thrivent person will then answer. Tell the person you want to direct your choice
dollars to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3014 McKinley St. NE, Mpls, MN
Call every month. Thank you all for your generous giving***

"A Statement of Concord" is a statement on doctrine and practice summarizing discussions in the Koinonia 2.0 Project of the Minnesota South District. Over 200 pastors, commissioned workers, and lay people gathered on February 18, 2017 in six locations around the district to discuss one of the six chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism and its implications for our confession and witness. "A "Statement of Concord" is a work in progress as our conversations on doctrine and practice continue. Copies are available on the Ushers counter.



***IF YOU HAVE NEW CONTACT INFORMATION AND
HAVE NOT GIVEN IT TO THE CHUCH OFFICE, PLEASE
LEAVE THE NEW INFORMATION IN THE SECRETARY'S
BOX SO WE CAN UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION AND
STAY CURRENT. THANK YOU!***

PERSPECTIVE

A minister was attending a men's breakfast. He asked one of the older farmers in attendance to say the prayer that morning. The farmer began, "Lord, I hate buttermilk." The pastor opened one eye and wondered to himself where this was going. Then the farmer said, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was worried. But the farmer prayed on, "And Lord, you know I don't care much for raw flour."

As the pastor was about to stop everything, the farmer continued. "But Lord, when you mix 'em all together and bake 'em up, I do love those fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up we don't like, when life gets hard when we just don't understand what you are saying to us, we just need to relax and wait 'til You are done fixin' and probably it will be something even better than biscuits." Amen.

Senior Thoughts

I don't trip over things- I do random gravity checks.

When I was a child I thought "Nap Time" was a punishment. Now, as a grown up, it just feels like a small vacation.

The biggest lie I tell myself is " I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it.!

If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would've put them on my knees.

The kids text me "plz" which is shorter than "Please". I text back "no" because it is shorter than "yes".

VACATION TIME

*God doesn't take a vacation from us;
let's not take a vacation from Him!*

*When planning your vacation,
check out churches you will be near
at www.LCMS.org*



Baptized Into Christ

Much of the denominational world says that baptism has nothing to do with our salvation, but let's see what the Bible says. Notice that it is baptism that puts us **into Christ** so that we can be saved. Galatians 3:27 says, "For as many of you as were **baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**" Baptism is the only way a person can get **into Christ**. The preposition *into* indicates a change of relationship. You can search from the front to the back of your Bible, and you will find no other way to get into Christ except by being baptized into Christ. What is the advantage of being baptized into Christ?

Ephesians 1:3 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with **every spiritual blessing** in heavenly places **in Christ.**" This verse tells us that every spiritual blessing is located in Christ. Only those who are in Christ can enjoy these spiritual blessings.

We read in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if anyone **is in Christ, he is a new creation:** old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." If one is in Christ, he has become a new creation. This is how we are born again.

The Apostle Paul says in 2 Timothy 2:10, "Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the **salvation which is in Christ Jesus,** with eternal glory." Here we see that salvation is located in Christ, and for one to be eligible for salvation, he must be in Christ. It will be a horrible thing for a person, who thinks he is saved, when he stands before the Lord on the Day of Judgment, if he is still outside of Christ. He will have no salvation. He will be lost eternally in Hell.

In 1 John 5:11 we read, "And this is the testimony, that God has given us eternal life, and **this life is in His Son.**" Only those who have been baptized to be saved are in Christ and have the promise of eternal life. Those who are outside of Christ have no promise of eternal life but are lost.

Stewardship Ministry June 2017

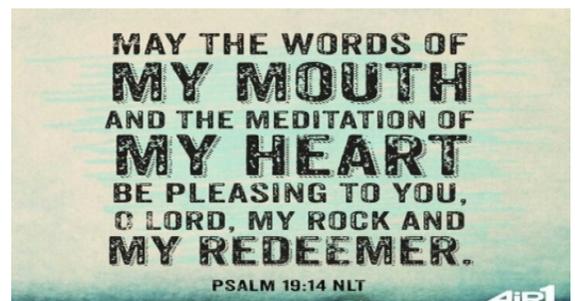
One of the best known and beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the Shepherd Psalm. There we learn that the Lord is our shepherd. And since He is our shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord's sheep.

How do we do this? We do it when we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving the gifts that He won for us on the cross, a violation of the First and Third Commandments. We do it when we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we think we don't know what the future will bring, even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters. We do it when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves, we do this because we have a mind set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We do this because we have stopped hearing the call of our shepherd, which comes through His Word.

The Word of God is how our shepherd calls us to himself. Through that Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through that Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead you to your true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here's the good news: The Lord is your shepherd still, even, and especially, for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the shepherd that lays down his life for His sheep. The Lord is your shepherd. Let us live then as His sheep.



Special Occasions for Special People



2nd Verlayne Sather
5th Roselina Ehnes
12th Debra Forsberg
15th Meridel Christopherson
16th Matthew Volner
18th Jennifer Tousignant
21st Carlos Martinez
22nd LeRoy Halverson

ANNIVERSARIES

21st Jonathan & Sara Edwards
28th Tom Harris & Pat Vogel

JUNE SERVANTS

Elder – Karmon Christopherson

Counters:

4th Al, Pam & Aaron Morelli
11th Derald & Chris Hadrath
18th Dale Raschke & Wade Billmeyer
25th Tom & Patty Lyrenmann

Ushers:

4th Morelli Family
11th Gwen Johnson & Bill Woll
18th Tom & Patty Lyrenmann
25th Dale Raschke &
Wade Billmeyer

Altar Care: Pat Scott & Jean Brede

FELLOWSHIP

Our Board of Social Ministry will be hosting Fellowship after our worship service on Sunday, June 11th. Thanks to those who are hosting!

FLOWERS

4th OPEN
11th OPEN
18th OPEN
25th OPEN

CANDLES

4th Sandy Westling in memory of Bob
11th OPEN
18th OPEN
25th OPEN

If you sign up for flowers or candles after the Newsletter is published, please let the Church Office know. We want to make sure that flowers are ordered and you are properly acknowledged in the announcement sheet.

