

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



“The Cost of Freedom”

**Order of Worship May 26, 2024 | 10 AM
Pastor Matthew Cephus**

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

www.gloriadeilcms.org

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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 cost of freedom is high, yet God sacrifice his Only Son for us all.

A special welcome to visitors and guests; we are pleased that you have joined us today! If you have no church family, and if we can be of any assistance to you, please speak with the Pastor after the service or via the church office. We pray you will feel God's love for you and be empowered to live as God's child this week. We look forward to seeing you again.

Is there something you'd like us to pray for today? If you have family members or friends who require our prayers, please use the prayer request cards found in each pew. They will be added to the Prayer list. You can hand your request to an usher before the service or during the offering. They will be given to the Pastor to be included in the prayers for today. **Other prayer requests can be made by contacting the church office at 612.781.1989.**

Children are welcome in worship!

The Lord's Supper is celebrated.

When we receive the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ,

- we express the belief that Jesus is the Son of God and Son of Man;
- that Jesus is our Savior and only way for salvation;
- that Jesus offers us His Body and Blood in a mysterious yet real way;
- that Christ's sacrificial death grants the forgiveness of our sins;
- and that God is strengthening us in this Sacrament to live a more godly life and to amend with the help of the Holy Spirit, those areas not in conformity with God's will.

We declare these statements because it is our concern for people to not be hypocritical between their faith and celebrate the blessings of God's Table at the Altar. e.

You have heard of Jesus, but do you know him? Join us for Bible Study

Join bible study **Wednesday, May 29, 11 am** with Pastor Matthew **OR**

Thursday, May 30 at 5:30 pm with Katie Beth & Daniel Carlson – fellowship is included in both sessions.

The Holy Trinity

AS WE GATHER: Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Today, we reflect on the sacrifice made by others to get us to where we are; most importantly, the price of freedom paid for by Christ Jesus.

+ CONNECT +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SOLO **"America the Beautiful"** **Karmon Christopherson**

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 also confess that we have not done all that is possible to promote peace and justice in our world. 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 +

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'er-take us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer,
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us;
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

OLD TESTAMENT READING**ISIAH 61:1-3*****The Year of the Lord's Favor***

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE READING**ROMANS 5:6-10**

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 15:9-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

Refrain:

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read the righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on. [**Refrain**]

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of all before his judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on. [**Refrain**]

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;
As he died to make us holy, let us die that all be free!
While God is marching on. [**Refrain**]

MESSAGE

"The Cost of Freedom"

Pastor Matthew Cephus

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PREFACE TO HOLY COMMUNION

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

L: It is our duty and delight at all times and everywhere to give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for You have enlightened us by the working of the Holy Spirit. Grant that the Spirit, who has called and gathered us, would guide us in all things, that we be enabled to speak the Gospel to others and rejoice in sharing the gift of salvation that is our treasure. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, with You and the Holy Spirit, is one God, through whom with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take this, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you, Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"God Bless America"

Irving Berlin

God Bless America lyrics © Concord Music Publishing LLC

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

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

5/26 Sun

The Holy Trinity

10:00 am **Worship w/Holy Communion, Pastor Cephus**
11:45 am Royal Family Worship
6:00 pm NA

5/27 Mon

Happy Memorial Day

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)
7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

5/29 Wed

11:00 am **Bible Study and/or Fellowship**

5/30 Thurs

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

5/31 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

6/01 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

6/02 Sun

Second Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 am **Worship w/Holy Communion,**
Guest Pastor Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor,
Christ Victorious, Chaska

11:45 am Royal Family Worship w/Holy Communion

6:00 pm NA

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Reading: Katie Beth Carlson

Ushers: Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer

Altar Care: OPEN

Counters: Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer

Attendance (Joint Pentecost Service): 5/19/2024: 31

Your Help is Needed!

Volunteers are needed to help with the Spring clean-up of the church yard and surrounding area. Grab your garden tools and gloves and help with this BIG project, which will include pulling weeds, picking up trash and twigs, etc. The clean-up day is scheduled for **Saturday, June 1 from 1 – 3 pm**. A light snack will be provided. Many hands make light work.

BIRTHDAYS: 29th Pat Scott

ANNIVERSARIES: 26th Larry Schlais & Wenda Schwoch

ETERNAL CANDLE: OPEN

FLOWERS: OPEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

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

Meridel Christopherson upcoming surgery to insert a stint in her main artery, which is completely blocked. Thankful for a plan.

Carin Anderson will have knee replacement surgery on Wednesday, May 8th.

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

James Norman, Sr. (James' dad) Prayers for a successful surgery

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

Pastor Jim Gullickson (Sandy Westling's friend) now at home after suffering a stroke, continuing rehab, using a wheelchair

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

Butch Morelli – Blocked carotid artery, surgery postponed; continued prayers

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

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

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

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

Bruce (Wenda Schwoch's BnL has stage 4 prostate cancer and **Ashley** (Wenda's niece) continued prayers

John (Karmon/Meridel SnL) has been diagnosed with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML), prayers for good results on continued cancer treatments

Roxie Johnson (Morelli's niece) heart issues, pacemaker implanted, continued prayers

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

Ty (Wade Billmeyer's Friend of a friend) continued prayers

Amy Price (Morelli's niece) – treatments for stage 4 cancer

For First Responders/Health Care Workers, including James Norman, an ICU nurse

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN DANGEROUS AREAS

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

May 26

"Penultimate Sacrifice"

(Acts 10:1-2)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Memorial Day honors those who made "the ultimate sacrifice" in service to country, but there was one Sacrifice infinitely greater.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

June 2

"Lit Up"

(Acts 11:24)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Law and Gospel light of Jesus is both an exposing searchlight that reveals our shortcomings and a warm grow light that nurtures us.

On Sunday mornings, listen on 830 AM WCCO AM at 6:05 am, or 1110 AM, Omaha, at 6:30 am, or XM 170 Satellite Radio on Sundays at noon or listen anytime at www.lutheranhour.org

STEWARDSHIP: *Trinity*

John 3:6 – "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." In Holy Baptism we receive a new birth: spirit from Spirit. With that rebirth we receive new desires, new lives, new purposes. To the (fleshly) world, Christian generosity makes no sense: the total minus a percentage is less than the original total. But Spirit-reborn Christians know that God's math works differently (as we might expect from the Trinity!). A blessing received from God becomes more of a blessing when it is used in generosity to bless others.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"May God send an army of angels to protect the babies in the womb from the laws being enacted in some states that are taking away protections for God's smallest, most vulnerable humans. May hearts be changed with the truths found in Scripture. And may the influence the devil has on our society, with his culture of death, be deposed."
Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. This week's episode is "**Return Trip.**" The modern-day story of a prodigal daughter. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Chaplain Craig G. Muehler, Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces in St. Louis, MO, presenting a Memorial weekend message. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.

May/June Offering: The Spring Offering will go directly to the Central Avenue Salvation Army food shelf, located at 2727 Central Avenue NE.
Use your "May Mission Offering" envelopes to make your donation.

MEMORIAL DAY: Facts About the History of the Holiday

For many Americans, Memorial Day marks a fun-filled long weekend and the unofficial start of summer. However, the holiday was created for a much more solemn purpose: commemorating the U.S. military personnel who died serving our country. As the "story" goes, in 1996, a group of children were asked what Memorial Day meant and responded, "That's the day the pools open!" As a result, the Clinton administration created the National Moment of Remembrance in an effort to remind Americans of Memorial Day's significance.

In honor of the holiday, here are a few important facts:

- The first Memorial Day took place on May 30, 1868.
- American flags should be flown at half-staff from sunrise until noon on Memorial Day.
- Memorial Day was officially recognized as a federal holiday in 1971.
- Every Memorial Day, there is a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
- Memorial Day was originally created to honor fallen soldiers of the Civil War but has since expanded to honor all U.S. military personnel who died while serving the country.
- There is a national moment of silence at 3 p.m. Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act in 2000. The act designates 3 p.m. on Memorial Day as a time for prayer and reflection.
- Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day, stemming from the practice of decorating soldier's graves to honor their memory.

Northeast Community Band at Como Park – May 30 @ 7 pm - 8:30 pm

The Northeast Community Band will present its end-of-the-season concert at the Como Lakeside Pavilion in St. Paul, Thursday, May 30, 7 pm. The band will reprise some tunes from previous concerts this year, and will feature Jack Stamp's "Pastime," a salute to baseball.

Northeast Chorale: Broadway & Pops Unplugged

The Northeast Chorale will blend Broadway classics and pop hits to create a delightful night of music. **Saturday, June 1, 7 pm, and Sunday, June 2, 4 pm.** Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1509 27th Avenue NE. Free admission (\$10 suggested donation). All ages welcome! www.northeastchorale.org