

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day

Order of Worship December 25, 2024 | 10:00 AM
Pastor Matthew Cephus

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

www.gloriadeilcms.org

email: info@gloriadeilcms.org

Music: John and Lisa Kleinwolterink

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: Christmas is the celebration of the incarnation of Christ. In other words, it is the welcoming act of him being born as a human being and celebrating his birthday.

A special welcome to visitors and guests; we are pleased that you have joined us today and invite you to worship with us every Sunday at 10 am! 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.

Bible Study Updates: Wednesday bible study is on holiday break. Please plan to join the 11 am bible study when it resumes on January 15.

The next Thursday evening bible study is January 2, 2025. Plan to attend! There is no bible study on December 26th. After the January 2 session, Thursday night bible study will be taking a hiatus. Thank you to all who attended. Watch the monthly newsletter for more information on a return date!

The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day Service

AS WE GATHER: JESUS is the reason for the season! But remember that YOU are also the reason for the season—because it was for you Christ came. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SOLO **"I Was Touched and I Believe"** **Lisa Kleinwolterink**

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.**

HYMN OF WORSHIP

"Away in a Manger"

LSB 364

Text & Tune: Public Domain

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS

L: Let us confess our sins unto God our Heavenly Father who truly loves us.

C: God of mercy, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us for not worshipping you as we should. Forgive us for not being tender-hearted and compassionate. Cleanse us of our pride and stubbornness in Jesus' name. Amen.

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

+ *NURTURE* +

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

LSB 368

Text & Tune: Public Domain

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be; Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING

Romans 15:8-13

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, *"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."*

And again it is said, *"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."*

And again, *"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."*

And again Isaiah says, *"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2:8-14

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

SONG OF THE DAY

"Joy to the World"

LSB 387 v. 1, 2 4

Text & Tune: Public domain

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

MESSAGE

"Good News for All People"

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.

***Refrain:* Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and every-where;
Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born.**

While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light. **Refrain**

The shepherds feared and trembled, When, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

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.

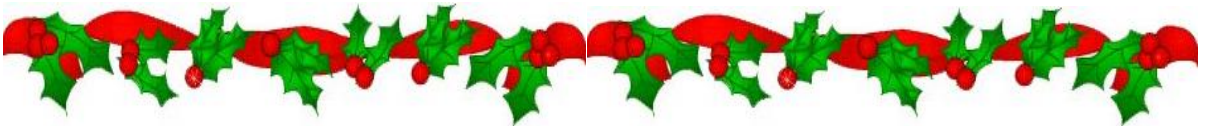
+ Silent Prayer +

POSTLUDE

+ WE DEPART TO SERVE +

+ + +

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OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

12/25 Wed	10:00 am	The Nativity of our Lord Christmas Day Service w/Holy Communion w/Pastor Matthew Cephus
	11:00 am	<u>NO</u> Bible Study
12/26 Thurs	5:30 pm	<u>NO</u> Thursday Evening Bible Study
12/27 Fri	5:00 pm	Living Word Music Rehearsal
12/28 Sat	10:00 am	Living Word Worship & Fellowship
	6:00 pm	Living Word Prayer Night
12/29 Sun		First Sunday after Christmas
	10:00 am	Worship Service w/Holy Communion w/Pastor Matthew Cephus
	11:45 am	Royal Family Worship
	6:00 pm	NA

SERVING TODAY

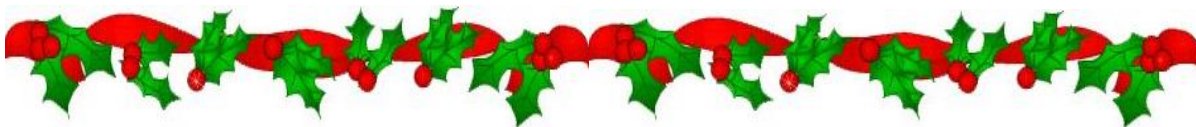
Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Reading: Karmon Christopherson

Ushers: The Morelli's

Altar Care: The Morelli's

Counters: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann



You are Invited to the RLC Jazz Concert!

Plan to attend on **December 31** for "New Year's Eve with RLC Jazz" at **7:00 PM**. It is their 18th annual performance and will feature an 18 piece big band along with numerous vocalists. This year's program is "Another Big Band Vocal Extravaganza".

Free concert with free-will donations accepted. Bring a friend!

Roseville Lutheran Church | 1215 Roselawn Ave. | Roseville, MN 55113 US

Following Sunday, December 29th service, there will be a vote to determine if the project for a new lift should be forward. It will be a simple "yes" or "no" vote. Everyone is invited to vote.

ETERNAL CANDLE: Sandy Westling – Happy Birthday Jesus

FLOWERS: Poinsettias

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Amanda (Sandy Westling's niece) recent car accident, exasperated old injuries from previous car accident. Suffering extreme pain, back problems and headaches, all while taking care of her family. Prayers she finds relief from her pain.

Gwen Johnson strength and prayers for her upcoming surgery to repair an abdominal aortic aneurysm. This type of aneurysm is hereditary and runs in her family.

Kim Morelli upcoming surgery, prayers for successful surgery and healing

Tom Lyrenmann thank you for prayers while hospitalized and continued prayers for recovery and health

Roselyn Norman lower back surgery (11/19). Pray for success and speedy recovery in Jesus' name.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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) – treatments for stage 4 cancer

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

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN DANGEROUS AREAS

STEWARDSHIP: *Christmas Day - John 1:12*

“But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.” In the beginning we were made in God’s image. When Adam and Eve sinned, the image was tarnished, and in some ways, it was even lost. But Christ has come to restore us, to make us God’s children again, to restore the image of God within us. The Christian life is a life of growing into that image, of struggling against sin and striving to imitate our Lord in His mercy, generosity, love, faithfulness and kindness.

Holiday Gift Basket Delivered!

The Social Ministry Committee assembled Holiday Gift baskets, filled with fruit, treats and goodies. Nine baskets were delivered to our dear shut-ins. Each basket also received a handwritten card with holiday greetings and well wishes.

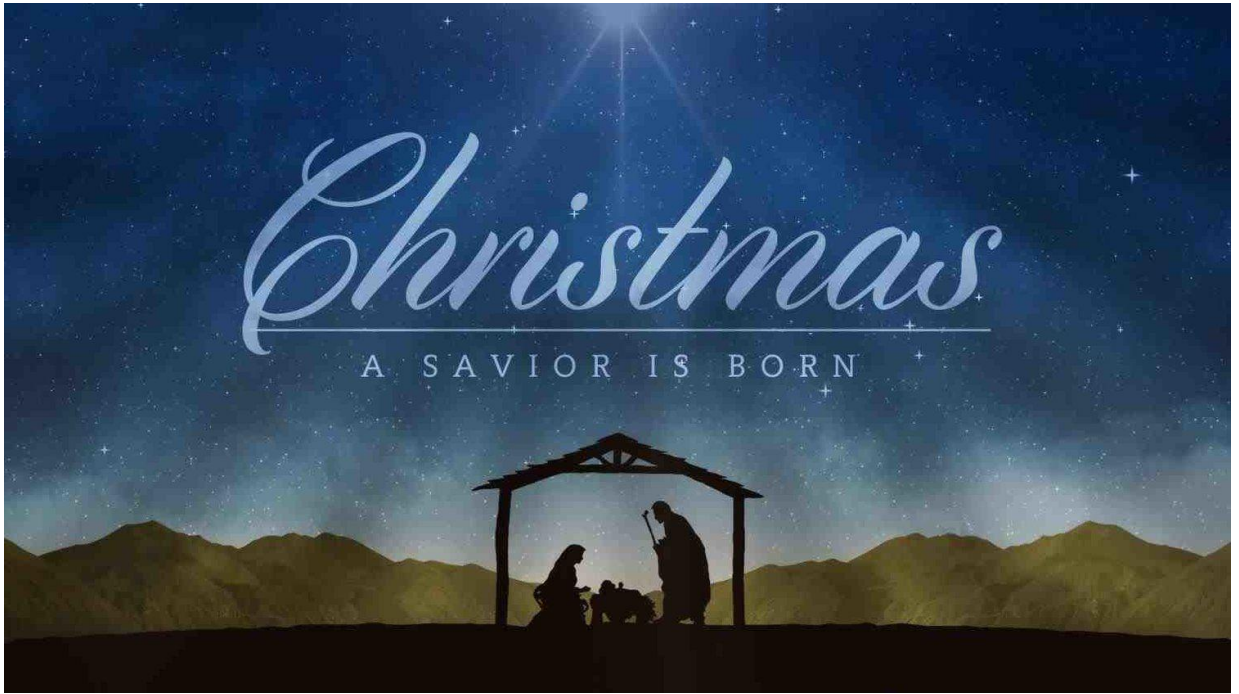


The toys and gifts were delivered to the Salvation Army on Tuesday, December 10th. Thanks to everyone’s generosity, Gloria Dei was able to donate \$738 worth of toys and gifts. Also to note, GDLC donated 140 pounds of food to the Salvation Army Food Shelf in the month of November. Wow!

The beautiful poinsettias throughout the church were graciously donated by:

Wade Billmeyer, Pastor Matthew and Patience; Karmon & Meridel Christopherson; Julie Cross; Shirley Holzinger (IMO Mom & Dad, Husband Rudy and Brother-in-law Greg); Gwen Johnson; Tom & Patty Lyrenmann; Barb McDonald (IMO Don McDonald); The Morelli’s (Loved ones); Verlayne Sather; Shirley Slagle; Sandy Westling (Loved ones)





Christmas Prayer of Thanksgiving: Gracious God, on this sacred day, we gather with hearts full of gratitude for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. Thank you for the love that brought Him to us and for the hope that His birth brings to the world. As we celebrate this Christmas, may our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for the ultimate gift of salvation.
Amen.