

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



"Loving God by Loving Others"

Order of Worship Sunday September 21, 2025 – 10 AM
Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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Pianist: Karrie Kikeh

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: This sermon on **loving God by loving others** centers on the Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:37-40), emphasizing that loving God with one's whole being is the first and primary commandment, followed closely by loving others as oneself. The sermon would highlight that this divine love is not separate but interconnected; loving God enables and transforms us to love others, while loving others reflects God's love to the world, making Him visible through our actions.

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.

Daniel and Katie Beth invite everyone to join their family for lunch following today's Service and Baptism. It's also a wonderful opportunity to spend some time with Rosemary.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER: God desires our hearts and inner natures for Himself. He provides a "heart transplant" through Christ to enable believers to love Him fully. Moreover, we are called to love others because God first loved us. Our capacity to love is a direct result of His love for us.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461 vs. 1-4
Text and Tune: Public Domain

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head!

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.

He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.

He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's complaint

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 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 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 "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461 vs. 5-8
Text and Tune: Public Domain

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives my kind wise heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

BAPTISM

Rosemary Alice Carlson

PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: Do you renounce sin and all the works and ways of the devil in your life and in the world?

C: Yes, I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: Yes! I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: **Yes! I believe 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. On the third day he rose again; ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: **Yes! 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.**

PROMISES

Baptism of Rosemary Alice Carlson

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

"Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules—that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the Lord, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE READING

1 John 4:7-17, 19

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is

love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:34-40

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809

Text & Music: © 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

MESSAGE "Loving God by Loving Others" Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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 Music: 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 +

+ + +

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St. Mary's Taste of Northeast Festival

Friday, Sept. 26, 5-9 pm and Saturday, Sept. 27, 11 am-7 pm. St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, 1701 5th Street NE. Enjoy local ethnic foods including perohi and holubki, pulled pork and lamb sandwiches as well as offerings from food trucks. Also featuring live entertainment, bingo and raffles, kids' activities, beer/wine, a used book sale and marketplace (Saturday only). Rock and roll cover band American Bootleg headlining Friday night. This event is cashless with the exception of bingo, cash raffle, used book sale and marketplace (by vendor discretion).

Vital Living: Senior Planet Tech

Gather in the East Side Neighborhood Services Tech Lounge on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 11 am-12:30 pm. Classes are free, but an RSVP is a must. Sept. 29: **Intro to Sleep Technologies**. Oct. 6: **Protecting Your Personal Information Online**. ESNS is located at 1700 Second Street NE. Register by calling 612-787-4086 or VitalLiving@esns.org.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

9/21 Sun

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am **Worship with Holy Communion &
Baptism of Rosemary Alice Carlson
w/Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

9/22 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

9/24 Wed

11:00 am **Bible Study – The Chosen, Part 5**

7:30 pm SLAA Group Meeting

9/26 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

9/27 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

9/28 Sun

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am **Worship with Holy Communion,
w/Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Reading: Jason Matasovsky

Ushers: Pam and Aaron Morelli

Altar: Pam & Aaron Morelli and Tom & Patty Lyrenmann

Counters: Pam Morelli and Dale Raschke

Attendance: 9/14/2025: 26

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 **Saturday, September 27**. Attendees remain in their cars and drive up to SACA's parking lot to pick up their boxes of produce.

BIRTHDAYS: 23rd Patty Lyrenmann
ANNIVERSARIES: 21st Kevin & Kim Morelli

ETERNAL CANDLE: Shirley Holzinger – In Memory of Mom, Arlene’s Birthday (9/25)
FLOWERS: Sandy Westling – Rosemary’s Baptism

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Gwen Johnson, prayers while waiting on test results

Lori Sharbono Surgery for brain aneurysm went well, prayers for healing

Roselyn Norman is scheduled to undergo right knee surgery on September 23

Roger Kropelniki (Ken Biebighauser’s BnL) underwent esophagus surgery and is suffering from lung issues

Al Morelli underwent surgery on August 27 to implant a stent in his carotid artery

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

Danielle Ohnstad is 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.

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

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 and Amy Rich (Morelli’s DnLs) continued prayers for good health after cancer treatments

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) dealing with continued health concerns

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

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN DANGEROUS AREAS

TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

September 21

"Someone Worth Having"

(Numbers 6:27)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

We lost God's name along the way, but God found us and gave us the Name by which we can know Him: Jesus--"God saves."

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

September 28

"On the Way, Already Home"

(Numbers 9:18)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God made us to move--toward Him in faith and toward our neighbor in love.
(Numbers 9:18)

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: *Luke 16:8b*

"For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light." The sons of this world know that they should use their wealth wisely to provide for their future. Shouldn't we, as "sons of light," know that the wealth God has allowed us to manage should be managed for God's purposes in roles He has given us to play in church, home and society?

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"Good things take time. Your smiles, your encouraging words, your time and talents donated for pro-life work done in Christ are sure to be effective, even if you can't immediately see the effects." *Marie MacPherson, author – 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 **"Spite"** — Negative emotions and grudges are destructive, but forgiveness allows people to move forward. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. David Weber from St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Warrens, WI, presenting a message titled **"Dinner Guests"** based on **Matthew 9:9-13**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.