

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



## THE LORD'S PRAYER - SERIES #2: "Praying with Confidence"

**Order of Worship January 25, 2026 | 10:00 AM**  
**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

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

[www.gloriadeilcms.org](http://www.gloriadeilcms.org)

email: [info@gloriadeilcms.org](mailto:info@gloriadeilcms.org)

**Pianist: Carol Blase**

# **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:** When it comes to prayer, it is important to learn how to pray with confidence. Not confidence in your ability. Sometimes we feel unsure whether our prayer is being heard or not. Our trust should be in God's ability and His willingness to answer, because of who He is. Once you understand what God is really like, your confidence in prayer will soar.

*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.

***Join us Wednesdays at 11 am for Bible Study featuring the Book of Ephesians***

# The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

**AS WE GATHER:** God is called Abba Father. He provides for needs, guides His children, and desires their spiritual growth, just as earthly fathers should. He is a merciful Father, the source of all comfort, who offers refuge and healing.

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN      “Just as I Am, Without One Plea”      **LSB 570 v.1-2, 5-6**

*Text & Tune: Public Domain*

Just as I am without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bids't me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not, To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot. O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown, Has broken every barrier down.  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone. O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

## 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

### "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow: If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

### Isaiah 49:8-15

Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages, saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.' They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene."

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me."

"Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **EPISTLE READING**

**Romans 8:31-39**

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 8:23-27**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord!**

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ!**

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear-  
All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged-- Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness-- Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden, Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--- Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

**MESSAGE****Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus****The Lord's Prayer Series #2: "Praying with Confidence"****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 HYMN SONG

### "To God Be the Glory"

**ViW 44**

*Text and Music: Public Domain*

To God be the glory, great things He has done;  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

**Refrain:** Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

**Refrain**

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

**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**

**1/25 Sun**

### **Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

**10:00 am**      **Worship Service w/Holy Communion  
w/Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am      Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm      NA

**1/26 Mon**

7:00 pm      Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm      AIAnon (upstairs)

**1/27 Tues**

7:30 pm      SLAA Group Meeting

**1/28 Wed**

11:00 pm      Bible Study – Book of Ephesians

**1/30 Fri**

5:00 pm      Living Word Music Rehearsal

**1/31 Sat**

10:00 am      Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm      Living Word Prayer Night

**2/01 Sun**

### **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**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: Julie Cross**

**Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Altar Care: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Counters: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Attendance: 1/18/2026: 36**

**BIRTHDAYS:** None  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** None

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** OPEN  
**FLOWERS:** OPEN

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

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

**Chris Hadrath** knee replacement surgery (1/23). Prayers for a speedy recovery  
**Alec Schwandt** (Morelli's nephew) upcoming procedure to remove heart fibulator, prayers for success and healing

**David Jacomet** (Roselyn's BnL) recently diagnosed with lung cancer, Pneumonia, high fever and declining health

**Nanc Rixe** recovering from shoulder replacement surgery

**Jennifer** (Amy Rich's sister) recently treated for breast cancer, recovering

**Danielle Ohnstad** continued prayers as she struggles with breast cancer

**Marie Padmore** (Roselyn's sister) prayers for positive test results

**Aaron Morelli** upcoming testing

**Pastor Martin Cornes'** father-in-law, Dan, recovering from cancer surgery, future treatment discussion are forthcoming

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

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

**Diane Sharbono** undergoing cancer treatment

**Dorie** (Shirley Holzinger's sister-in-law) addressing unexpected issues.

**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.

**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 at 612-781-1989.

## **TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR**

**January 25, 2026    "Cross Words—Words of Power"    1 Corinthians 1:17-18**

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

A crossword puzzle uses an answer only once, but Christ is the answer for all people in every place and time.

## **NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR**

**February 1, 2026    "Rotten Tomatoes"    1 Corinthians 1: 30-31**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Boasting gone wrong—it's the rotten fruit of rightful praise. It happens when we forget that everything we have is a gift, even the things we think we've earned and deserved.

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](http://www.lutheranhour.org)

**STEWARDSHIP:** *Third Sunday after Epiphany - Matthew 4:20*

"Immediately they left their nets and followed him." Discipleship cost Peter and Andrew everything they had. They left their trade, their hometown, their families, and they followed Jesus. God has called us to the same discipleship, the same devotion, though the exact details of how that is lived out will vary. The important thing is this: we know that all we have is the Lord's, to be used for His purpose. We are His disciples and are ready to follow where He leads.

## **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

"The One who gives us our new beginning in Baptism is the same God who fashioned us and gave us our first beginning in the womb. It is God who brings forth life. It is God who created us, who 'knits us together,' so that we are 'intricately and wonderfully made.' Some say that the Bible never mentions abortion, and thus we should not speak against it. How far from the truth! The decisive moral truth of what Scripture teaches is this: Human beings are such from fertilization. And—it is a sin to shed innocent blood." *Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://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 **"Missing Ingredient."** Bob (Jack Nicholson) and his fiancée Lynn (Susan Crane) are planning their wedding when she overhears her parents planning to separate shortly after. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. David Kneflekamp from St. Peter and St. Paul Lutheran Churches in Osseo, WI, presenting a message titled **"No Food or Drink"** based **on Acts 9:1-22**. This program is interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) select the "Twin Cities" tab.

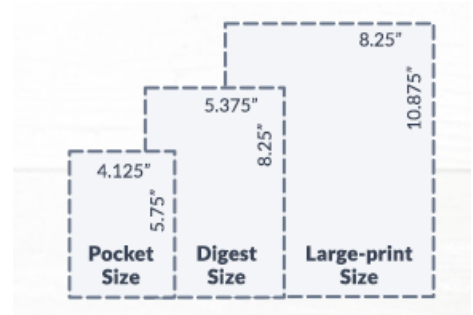
## Readers Needed – Gloria Dei is always in need of readers.

We welcome volunteers to assist with the reading of scriptures during Sunday services, as your participation adds richness and variety to our worship. Whether you are a seasoned reader or would like to try for the first time, your involvement is greatly appreciated. If you feel called to serve in this way, please reach out to the church office for more information or to be added to the schedule. Every voice helps bring the Word of God to life for our congregation.

Thank You!

## A daily devotion for all!

Whether you are an early riser or prefer a quiet moment later in the day, we invite you to enrich your routine with the inspirational devotions of *Portals of Prayer*. Each edition offers a meaningful Bible reading, reflection, and prayer to help you center your day on faith. POPs are conveniently available in various sizes to suit your needs. Pocket size (regular print) is \$10.25, digest-size is \$20.55 and large print is \$22.25. Payment envelopes for your subscription can be found within your envelope box. Please remember to use the designated envelopes when submitting your payment. Thank you!



### ***If you have Thrivent Insurance, Don't forget about Thrivent Choice Dollars!***

Call 1-800-Thrivent (1-800-847-4836). When asked for subject, say "Choice Dollars." Then, when asked for a choice, press 1, once you supply your birth date, a Thrivent representative will come on the line. Tell the representative you want to direct your choice dollars to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3014 NE McKinley Street, Minneapolis. By directing Choice Dollars through the Thrivent Choice program, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars. These dollars are distributed among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations each year.

***Thank you for your generous giving!***