

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*

# Happy Anniversary 75 Years of Faithfulness 1951 - 2026



**Order of Worship May 17, 2026 | 10:00 AM**  
**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

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**Pianist: Karrie Kikeh**

# **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:** Being "kept by God" means being spiritually protected, preserved, and guarded by divine power, rather than relying on one's own strength. It signifies that believers are held securely in God's love and care, with their salvation guaranteed by Him. This promise, often linked to 1 Peter 1:5, as we will be talking about it more in our sermon.

*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 Gloria Dei for Bible Study each Wednesday at 11 am.***

***Everyone is Welcome!***

# The Seventh Sunday after Easter

**AS WE GATHER:** Reflecting on how God has been faithful in the past 75 years, will build confidence for the future. His faithfulness provides an anchor, as his nature is unchangeable, making him a safe refuge. HAPPY 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

**"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**

## 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.**

## A PSALM FOR GIVING THANKS

PSALM 100

- L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!
- C: Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**
- L: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!
- C: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.**

## CONFESSION OF OUR SINS

- L: Let us confess our sins to our Heavenly Father who truly loves us and is ready to forgive.
- C: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, 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

**"How Great Thou Art"**

**LSB 801 v. 1,3-4**

*Text and Tune: © 1953, renewed 1981 Manna Music*

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

**Refrain:** Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin

**Refrain**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: "My God how great Thou art!"

**Refrain**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Psalm 121:1-8**

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **EPISTLE READING**

**1 Peter 1:1-5**

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL READING****John 10:27-30**

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ!****HYMN OF THE DAY****"The Church's One Foundation"****LSB 644***Text and Tune: Public Domain*

The Church's one foundation, Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
 She is His new creation, By water and the Word.  
 From heav'n He came and sought her, To be His holy bride;  
 With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
 Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
 And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,  
 By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,  
 Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up: "How long?"  
 And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,  
 She waits the consummation, Of peace forevermore;  
 Till with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,  
 And the great Church victorious, Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union, With God, the Three in One,  
 And mystic sweet communion, With those whose rest is won.  
 O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace,  
 That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

**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.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**"Shine Jesus Shine"**

*© Graham Kendrick , 1987 and this arr. 1991 Make Way Music, Ltd. CCLI # 30426*

Lord, the light of Your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness shining;  
Jesus, light of the World shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Refrain:** Shine, Jesus, Shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, Blaze, Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, River, Flow Flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth Your Word, Lord, And let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
Shine on me, Shine on me.

**Refrain**

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display Your likeness,  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on me, Shine on me.

**Refrain**

**WORDS FROM PASTOR BRINKMAN**

**Former Pastor at Gloria Dei**

**75TH ANNIVERSARY IN VIDEO**

**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.

**LUNCHEON PRAYER**

**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

*+ WE DEPART TO SERVE +*

+ + +

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