

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

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Pianist **As Scheduled**
Office Administrator **Jeni Hofstede-Bryan**
Ministers **All members of Gloria Dei**

Caring Sharing Serving Reaching



JANUARY 2025 Worship Schedule

Jan 5 Second Sunday after Christmas w/Holy Communion

Jan 12 First Sunday after the Epiphany w/Holy Communion

Jan 19 Second Sunday after the Epiphany w/Holy Communion

Jan 26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany w/Holy Communion

***Wednesday Bible Study will resume on Wednesday,
January 15th at 11 am.***

Thursday evening bible study will take a hiatus after January 2.

Thank you to everyone who donated a poinsettia for the altar.
Gloria Dei looked beautiful during the Christmas holiday.



New Year's Prayer

May the Lord make my New Year a happy one... Not by shielding me from sorrow and pain, but by strengthening me to bear it if it comes. Not by making my path easy, but by making me sturdy enough to tread any path. Not by taking hardships from me, but by taking all cowardice and fear from my heart as I meet hardships.



What Time Is It?

At the beginning of this new year, the name for this first month of the year, January, comes from the name of the mythological Roman god, Janus, who was the guardian of portals as well as the patron of beginnings and endings. He was depicted as having two faces – one looking backward and one looking forward. At the beginning of this new year of our Lord 2025, that may be a good image to hold up: looking backward and at the same time, looking forward. We tend to do that with time, especially at milestones in life.

What time is it? Anyone will tell you that come January 1, we enter into a new year. We live in a world ordered by space and time, and we are especially conscious of that as we enter into the new year. But our reckoning of time is quite different from how God reckons time. Especially now, we are conscious that in the midst of our world of hours, days, months, and years, the God whom we worship and serve is eternal and timeless, without beginning or end.

We human beings order life according to what the Greek language of the New Testament calls *chronos*, that is the sequential, day-in, day-out system of time. From this Greek word, we get our own word “chronological” – a linear approach to life that is familiar to all of us. But God reckons time quite differently; not by *chronos*, but by *kairos*. This *Kairos* thing is a new time zone, and it literally means God’s timing. Paul the apostle writes concerning this: “In the fullness of time (*kairos*), God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons” ([Galatians 4:4-5](#)). God’s timing does not depend on hours, days, months, or years, but when everything is ready for God’s purpose. And ultimately, as Paul says elsewhere in the New Testament, “We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose” ([Romans 8:28](#)). God’s loving purpose dictates God’s timing, which may or may not coincide with our own sense of timing. At times, we struggle to understand what this means, particularly when something does not happen according to the timetable that we have worked out in our own minds.

At the dawning of this new year, it’s important to remember that God has broken into our *chronos* world with the birth of his Son, Jesus. The incarnate Son of God is transforming our world and our lives into a new time zone – God’s time, *kairos*. Although we still live in a *chronos* world marked by deadlines and due dates, as Christ’s people we recognize that there is another sense of time – *kairos* time – that is much grander and more expansive than anything our little minds can comprehend. This *kairos* time is that which guides and directs our lives, and that’s from God alone.

What time is it? It is time to greet the new year with a spirit of hopeful joy, for we know that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” ([Hebrews 13:8](#)). The prayer below, appointed for New Year, is appropriate as we enter the year of our Lord 2025. May this new year be one of grace and blessing from the Lord’s hand for each one of us.

Eternal Father, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in this new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event which gives us joy forever – the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lantern Walk Through the Bible - December 14

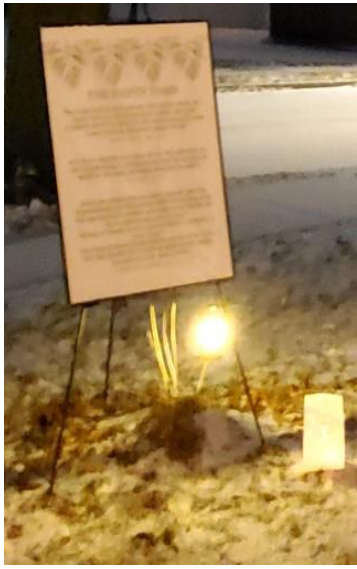
Gloria Dei's Evangelism Team in partnership with members of Royal Family Church, invited the neighborhood to come along on a Lantern Walk Through the Bible. The journey featured "stations" along a snowy, lantern-lit pathway, highlighting Bible verses from Genesis through Revelation. The Lantern Walk was a self-guided, go at your own pace, no tour guide event. At the end of the journey, travelers experienced the warmth from a firepit and enjoyed roasting marshmallows and sipping hot chocolate, all while making new friends.

This **FREE** one-of-a-kind event was open to the neighborhood and surrounding communities and took place entirely on the church's lawn. The weather was a bit frightful, so everyone was dressed warm! However, if participants found they were feeling a bit chilly, they could stop by the warming room inside the church!









December 15 Joint Service with Children's Christmas Program





With Our Sincerest Thank You!

Thank you to everyone at Gloria Dei for the cards, gifts and prayers we received during Christmas. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated! It is great to work with such a wonderful congregation with never-ending support. Prayers for a successful 2025!

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Pastor Matthew, Jeni, Matt



Salvation Army Christmas Tree Gift Collection was a Success!

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who took time to shop for new gift items for the Salvation Army. These gifts, mostly toys 😊, were collected and placed under our Christmas tree in the Lobby and with your generosity, gifts collected amounted to \$738. **WOW!** These gifts/toys were sure to brighten a lot of Christmas mornings. Also to note, Gloria Dei donated 140 pounds of food to the Salvation Army food shelf for the month of November 2024.



Sign-up sheets for 2025 Altar Care, Ushers, Flowers and Candles can be found on the entryway bulletin board.

Sign up for the week that works best with your schedule. Flowers can be ordered through the Church at a cost of \$28 per bouquet plus a \$12 delivery fee, or feel free to bring in your own. You will be billed directly from the Church if you order flowers. Candles are \$6.

Offering Envelopes



Please remember to use your new 2025 envelopes beginning January 5, 2025. You can simply toss-out or recycle any remaining envelopes you have left-over from 2024.

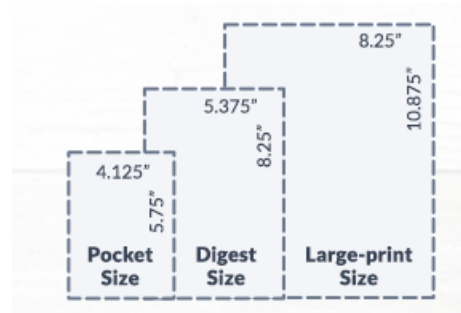
Something Sweet Needed!

Do you have a favorite cookie, bar or cake recipe? Every Sunday, following the 10 am service, GDLC hosts Fellowship in the Fireside Room, where snacks and coffee is served. If you **would like to bring something to share (it doesn't have to be homemade 😊)**, please sign up on the lobby bulletin board for the Sunday that works with your schedule. Thank You!

A DAILY DEVOTION FOR ALL!

Start your day. End your day. Take a break in the middle of the day. No matter when you need it, Portals of Prayer **inspires you to live each day in Jesus' name.**

Within your envelope box are envelope for Portals of Prayer payment. Each daily devotion includes a Bible reading, meditation and prayer to apply to your daily life, published in multiple sizes and formats – note the slight cost increase for this **years' subscription**, for pocket size (regular print) is \$9.76, digest-size is \$20 and large print is \$21.25. Please use the envelopes designated when you make your payment.



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." When asked for a choice, press 1. Then answer the next question with 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 St, 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!

2025 March of Life

The Minnesota South District and Concordia University, St Paul will host a Life Chapel Service at 10:30 am on January 22, 2025, at Graebner Memorial Chapel, 1259 Carroll Avenue St. Paul.

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light (Isaiah 9:2).

After the Life Chapel Service, worshipers are encouraged to travel to the steps outside the Minnesota State Capitol for the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) March for Life.

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life will hold its annual march on January 22, 2025, 12 noon at the Minnesota State Capital. Join thousands of pro-life Minnesotans for an unforgettable remembrance of lives lost and a compelling call to rebuild a Minnesota where every human life is valued and loves.

12 – 12:30: March around Capital mall (south side of building)

12:30 – 1: Program on Capital steps (speakers and music)

Opportunities to meet with legislators also available. Learn more at MCCL.org/March

Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow

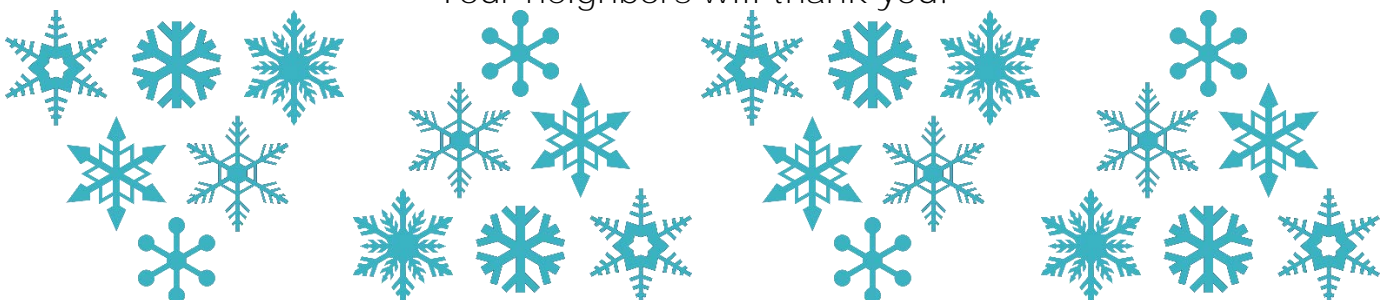
Sidewalk clearing basics

- Shovel the full width of the City sidewalk along your entire property down to bare pavement.
- Use sand/salt on icy sidewalks. Some sand/salt mix is available from the City for residents. Keep in mind, 12 ounces of salt is all you need to treat eight or ten sidewalk panels. Any **more than that is overkill! That's the word from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO)**, based in Northeast.
- Shovel around your garbage, organics and recycling carts so the City can empty your carts.
- Shovel snow into your yard or boulevard. Do not shovel snow into the street or alley.
- If you will be away, arrange for someone else to shovel your sidewalk.
- If you do not shovel and properly maintain your sidewalk, crews may be sent to remove the snow and ice and you will be billed for the work.

Snow clearing assistance: if you need assistance clearing your sidewalk, please contact 311 for information on possible resources in your area.

Contact 311 to report a sidewalk snow and ice complaint.

Your neighbors will thank you!



Around the Community!

Free Drive-Thru Community Dinner at St. Timothy's | January 14th

Drive Thru Community Dinner – Second Tuesday of each month – 5-6:30 pm (or until the food is gone). Free, everyone is welcome! St. Timothy's is located at 825 51st Ave NE, Columbia Heights.

Traditional Scandinavian Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner | January 18 @ 12 pm – 6 pm

First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights, 1555 40th Avenue NE, will hold its annual Scandinavian Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner, Saturday, January 18, seating times are 12, 2, 4 and 6. Takeout may be ordered for the same times. However, takeout orders will be filled after all onsite attendees are seated for their scheduled time (about 30 minutes after seating time). Tickets are \$25, and \$10 for children 2 – 12, under 2 are free and can be reserved by calling Cheryl at 651-633-0679 or www.flcch.org/lutefisk-meatball-dinner. No ticket returns and reservations are required! Tickets are sold through January 11. Dinner includes lutefisk with butter and optional white sauce, meatballs, mashed potatoes, gravy, carrots, mashed rutabagas, herring, beet pickles, lefse, julekake, rice pudding with raspberry sauce. Meals can be requested without fish (for the faint of heart) and will include extra meatballs.

Vital Living: Senior Planet Tech

Gather in the East Side Neighborhood Services Tech Lounge Mondays and Wednesdays, 11 am-12:30 pm. Classes are free, but an RSVP is a must. January 6: Google Maps; January 8: Using Google Drive; January 13: Ridesharing Apps; January 15: Getting Started with Lyft. East Side Neighborhood Services is located at 1700 Second Street NE. Registration: 612-787-4086 or VitalLiving@esns.org.

Mini pancakes with a cop – Join the Columbia Heights Police Department for Mini pancakes with a cop at Yummy Bites, 4230 Central Avenue NE, Tuesday, January 14, 4-6 pm.

Hennepin County Neighborhood Fix-It Hub

January 14, 2025 @ 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Hennepin **County's Neighborhood Fix-It Hub** is at St. Anthony Library, 2941 Pentagon Dr. Work with a friendly, skilled volunteer to try to fix your broken household stuff, gain confidence and learn new repair skills. This event is family friendly. No registration required. Volunteers are needed to assist with repair and sewing – come help your neighbors. Contact Nancy Lo at nancy.lo@hennepin.us or 612-348-9195. Every other Tuesday, 4-7 p.m., last items accepted at 6:30 p.m. Upcoming dates for 2025 are Jan. 14 and 28, Feb. 11 and 25, March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22, May 13 and 27, June 10 and 24.

Happy
New Year

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 a.m.

Hosted by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler (unless otherwise noted)

January 5 (John 1:1)
"In the Beginning Was Dialogue"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Do you need more faith? Then you need the Word.
Faith comes from hearing the Word of Christ.

January 12 (John 1:14)
"What's This Neighborhood Coming To?"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
When you're not limited by the size of your table,
you can invite everyone.

January 19 (John 2:11)
"He Made Me a Believer"
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God makes us believers and the more we believe,
the more we become involved in the institutions
God made--church, marriage, family, and work.

January 26 (John 3:26-36)
"An Overture to the Greatest Story Ever Told"
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Leopoldo Sanchez
Like an overture that introduces a great musical
work, John the Baptizer is the living voice sent by
God to bear witness to Jesus' lordship and salvation.



Daily Devotions from

The Lutheran Hour Ministries

With several ways to read and listen, you can get
your daily does of Scripture when you need it.

Visit lhm.org/dailydevotions to subscribe
for email delivery to your inbox, sign up for
the podcasts, or download the app for your
mobile device – all for **FREE!**



December Official Acts

None

Time of Grace

Time of Grace connects people to God's
grace—his love, glory, and power—so they
realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy.
However, through Jesus we have access to the
eternal God—right now and forever.

Pastor Mike Novotny

Pastor Mike Novotny has served God's people
in full-time ministry since 2007 in Madison and,
most recently, at The CORE in Appleton,
Wisconsin. He also serves as the lead speaker
for Time of Grace, where he shares the good
news about Jesus through television, print, and
online platforms.

Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 AM

Subscribe to Time of Grace to be delivered to
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resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just
select which types of resources you would like
to receive and they will be sent right to your
inbox www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe


WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS

Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. produces a
weekly, 30-minute Lutheran broadcast,
Worship for Shut-Ins. Each service includes
music, scripture readings, prayers, and a
Lutheran pastor delivering a message that is
designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. Each
program is closed captioned for the hearing
impaired.

Weekly programs are broadcast on Total
Christian Television (TCT) network -- *DIRECTV*
channel 377 at 10:30 am on Sundays OR watch
online in the "**Online Viewing**" portion of the
website [www.worshipforshutins.org!](http://www.worshipforshutins.org)

Special Occasions for Special People



<i>No Birthdays</i>	<i>No Anniversaries</i>
JANUARY SERVANTS	
Elder: Karmon Christopherson	
Counters	
5 th Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli 12 th Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather 19 th Sandy Westling and Tom Harris 26 th Tom and Patty Lyrenmann	
Candles	Flowers
5 th 12 th 19 st 26 th	5 th 12 th 19 st 26 th
<p>If you sign up for flowers or candles after the newsletter is published, be sure to let the office know. We want to make sure that flowers are ordered and you are properly acknowledged in the bulletin notes. Thanks!</p>	
	
<p><i>"If you're praying for a Blizzard, please go to the Dairy Queen!"</i></p>	

Did you miss a Sunday worship service, or want to hear something again? You can view all our previous worship services on our YouTube Channel. Simply go to our website, where you will find a "Watch Live" *click here to watch* section on our Homepage, you will then be redirected to Gloria Dei's YouTube page, where you will always find the last Sunday's service. To view previous Sunday services click "Live" (Home Videos Live) you will then be taken to the page with the previous Sunday services, click on the one you want to watch.

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>New Year's Day</i> NO 11 am Bible Study	2 Last 5:30 pm Bible Study	3 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	4 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
5 The Second Sunday after Christmas 10 am GDLC Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	6 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs)		8 NO 11 am Bible Study		10 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	11 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
12 First Sunday after the Epiphany 10 am GDLC Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	13 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs)		15 11 am Bible Study		17 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	18 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4 – 5 pm Living Word Board Meeting 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
19 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 10 am GDLC Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	20 <i>MLK, Jr. Day Observed</i> Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs)	21 5 pm GDLC Council Meeting	22 11 am Bible Study		24 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	25 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany 10 am GDLC Worship w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	27 Pastor's Day Off 7 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs) 7 pm AlAnon (upstairs)		29 11 am Bible Study		31 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

EPIPHANY — JANUARY 1-31

Epiphany is from a Greek word meaning to “reveal” or “make manifest.” The season of Epiphany is our time to focus on the revelation of who Jesus is — both true God and true man — as we remember Christ’s revelation to the Gentiles in the visit of the Wise Men.

Give thanks as you pray:

- 1.** *That God would make us bold witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in this new year and always.*
- 2.** *For opportunities to witness to friends, family members and strangers. Please send Your Holy Spirit to give us wisdom and faithful words to use during these encounters.*
- 3.** *For our congregations, that God would strengthen them by fostering a faithful Lutheran approach to confessing Christ to neighbors and planting daughter congregations.*

4. *That our schools would be faithful mission outposts, reaching unchurched families with the Gospel and strengthening the faith of church families.*

5. *With thanksgiving for all the Synod’s faithful church workers, that they might be re-energized daily and find great joy in their service.*

6. *That just as You made known Your Son to the Gentiles through the leading of a star, You would continue to bring the light of Your Gospel to the hearts of all people.*

7. *For new church plants and mission starts, that the Lord would help faithful congregations sprout up in every corner of the United States.*

8. *That we would be effective in reaching out to people of different ethnicities who are living in our communities. Pray that the Lord would use us*

as His instruments to make the LCMS a reflection of the Church Triumphant.

9. *For those marching for life, whether at the National March for Life in Washington, D.C., or a pro-life event closer to home. Please pray that all those who attend might be a powerful witness to others.*

10. *For all children, that they would be brought to the saving waters of Baptism and raised in the love, nurture and admonition of the Lord.*

11. *That the Lord would help us raise our children and young people in the faith, always pointing them to the hope and salvation found only in Christ.*

12. *For college students, who are struggling with many different issues and challenges. Ask God to make them receptive to the peace and healing of the Gospel.*

13. *For the aged, that they would be godly examples to the young as they are patient in their tribulations, joyful in their hope, firm in their faith and humble in all they say and do.*

14. *That God would strengthen our hope and impact by encouraging partnerships in the Gospel that clearly confess Christ.*

15. *For the Synod’s 35 districts, that they might have the resources and wisdom to effectively reach out to their communities.*

16. *For strong districts, congregations and Recognized Service Organizations. When our Synod is strong at home, we can better reach out across the world.*

17. *For all missionaries around the world, who leave family and friends to travel to a foreign land to share the Gospel with those who have not heard. Pray that God would grant them safety, wisdom and strength.*

JANUARY *Pray For Us Calendar*

18. *With thanksgiving for all the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who support the work of LCMS missionaries through their prayers and gifts.*

19. *That God would raise up indigenous pastors, deaconesses and other church leaders to reach out to their own communities and share His Word.*

20. *For the Synod's partner churches around the world, that they would continue to teach Christ's Word in all its truth and purity.*

21. *With thanksgiving for all past missionaries. Thanks be to God, the Gospel seeds they planted continue to bear much fruit.*

22. *That God would raise up more missionaries to serve at home and abroad, according to His will.*

23. *That the Lord would open up the hearts and minds of people around the world, so that His grace-filled message can be spread far and wide.*

24. *For discernment, that we might heed God's call to serve in His name, whether around the world or right here at home.*

25. *That God would bless mission work in urban areas and protect those He sends to work in these often-difficult situations.*

26. *For mission work in sub-urban areas, that we would not become complacent in the work God has called us to do in our own communities.*

27. *For mission work in rural areas, that congregations would be equipped to respond to the changing demographics around them.*

28. *That congregation members might be welcoming to every person the Lord brings to their church.*

29. *That God would strengthen our faith so that His Word has free course in our congregations and homes.*

30. *For all people who turn away from the loving arms of their Savior. Pray that the Holy Spirit would transform their hearts and minds.*

31. *With thanksgiving that God has called and equipped us to join in His mission to seek and save the lost. Ask God to give you courage to be His witness in your daily life.*



Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

