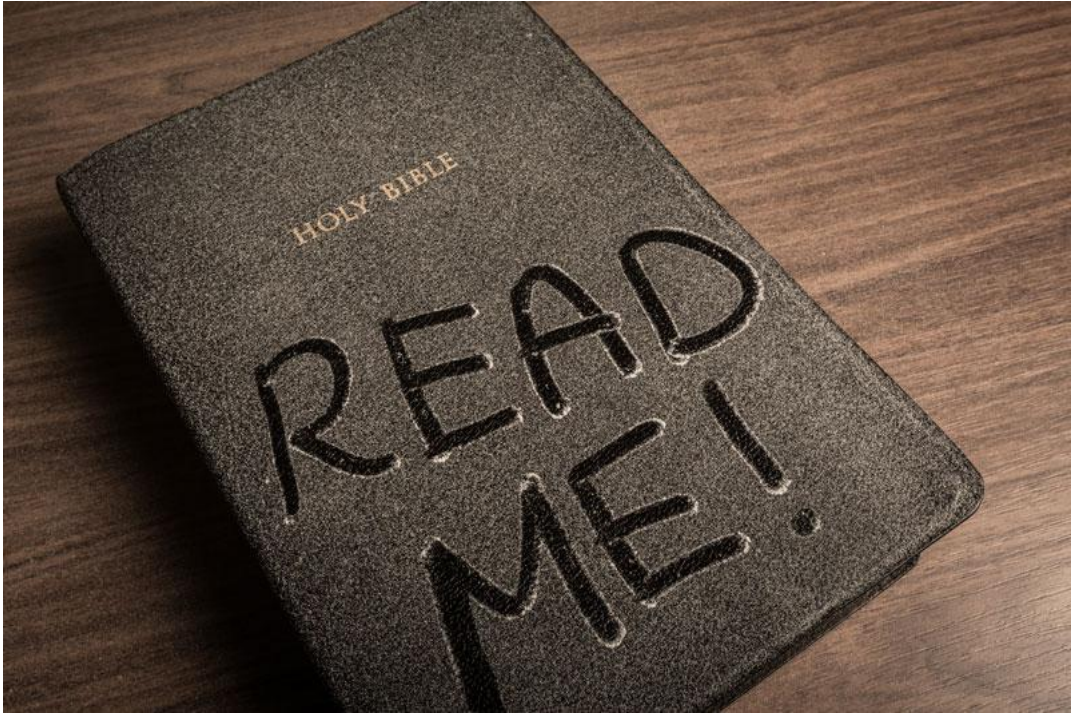


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



**"Understanding the Importance of Our Priesthood –
Part II: *God's Instructions for Freedom*"**

**Order of Worship Sunday June 22, 2025 – 10 AM
Pastor Matthew Cephus**

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

www.gloriadeilcms.org

email: info@gloriadeilcms.org

Pianist: Carol Blase

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: Being intentional with God's Word is essential to living a deep and meaningful life. In the biblical period, God's people were called to not only dig into the Scriptures but also to have an ongoing discussion with their friends and family about them. For many of us, our time with God's Word often stops with reading it and we miss out on the critical responsibility of discussion. In this sermon episode, we explore why it's so crucial to be intentional about our relationship with the Bible so that it permeates every facet of our lives

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 Wednesday, June 25 for Bible Study, the last of the season! As a reminder, Gloria Dei's bible study will be taking the summer off. We will resume after Labor Day. Watch the weekly bulletin and/or Newsletter for exact return dates.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER: God truly loves us as his children and values us as royal priests. He gives us boundaries through his Word, not to restrict, but to protect, guide, and ultimately bring us into greater freedom and fulfillment.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG **"Just as I Am, Without One Plea"** **LSB 570 v.1-3,5**
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, though tossed about, With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, 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.

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 our Heavenly Father who truly loves us and is ready to forgive.

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

Numbers 15:37-41

Tassels on Garments

The Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner. And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the Lord, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after. So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the Lord your God."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 5:1,7,8,13-18

Christ Has Set Us Free

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion is not from him who calls you.

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Keep in Step with the Spirit

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

The Truth Will Set You Free

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

"In Christ Alone"

Keith Getty/Stuart Townend

Copyright © 2001 Thankyou Music, EMI Christian Music Group, CCLI# 3350395

In Christ alone my Hope is found, He is my Light, my Strength, my Song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, What depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, When strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh. Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious Day. Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory. Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine - Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**MESSAGE "Understanding the Importance of Our Priesthood Pastor Cephus
Part II: *God's Instructions for Freedom*"**

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

"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

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 +

+ + +

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. Hymns are copied with permission: CCLI # 689918

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

6/22 Sun

Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

**Worship with Holy Communion,
Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am

Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm

NA

6/23 Mon

7:00 pm

Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm

AIAnon (upstairs)

6/25 Wed

11:00 am

Bible Study

6/27 Fri

5:00 pm

Living Word Music Rehearsal

6/28 Sat

10:00 am

Living Word Worship & Fellowship

4:00 pm

Living Word Board Meeting

6:00 pm

Living Word Prayer Night

6/29 Sun

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

**Worship with Holy Communion,
Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am

Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm

NA

Gloria Dei will welcome **Pastor Martin Cornes** as our guest preacher on Sunday, July 6. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the 10 am Worship Service!

SERVING TODAY

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Reading: Katie Beth Carlson

Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann

Altar Care: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann

Counters: Sandy Westling and Tom Harris

Attendance: 6/15/2025: 27

Garage Sale Update

Gloria Dei's annual garage sale raised nearly \$1,800 despite the rain. All items were donated by members and neighbors. The remaining items will be boxed up and donated to local thrift stores. Thank you to everyone who had a part in the success!

Spring Mission Offering

Gloria Dei's annual Spring Mission Offering will continue through June. The funds collected will go to the Central Avenue Salvation Army, at 2727 Central Avenue NE, Minneapolis. Use the May Mission Offering envelope to make a monetary donation OR continue to fill our "grocery chart" with non-perishable foods items. The Salvation Army is always seeking food, hygiene and monetary contributions to help restock their shelves. Donated food items are put to immediate use, helping to feed the hungry in our neighborhoods. *Thank you!*

Drop-In Tech Time - Wednesdays from 11:00 AM-12:30 PM | In-person

If you have a specific tech question and want 1:1 support, please consider stopping by for their Drop-In Tech Time!

They can help with day-to-day questions regarding things like how to search the internet, app functions, making text bigger, etc. You can let them know in advance when you plan on stopping by and they will be ready for you! If you need support and Wednesdays do not work for you, please feel free to call and maybe an alternative time can be found that works better.

For all drop-in tech support sessions, they gather in the Tech Lounge at East Side Neighborhood Services. No cost for this service but donations are welcome.

For questions and to register, contact 612-787-4086 or **VitalLiving@esns.org**.

BIRTHDAYS: None

ANNIVERSARIES: 25th Daniel and Katie Beth Carlson

ETERNAL CANDLE: OPEN

FLOWERS: OPEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Mike (Mary Piper's friend) lost his sister-in-law to an aneurysm. Prayers for the family during this unexpected loss.

Barb McDonald niece recently passed away. Healing prayers for the entire family.

Danielle Ohnstad has been recently diagnosed with breast cancer and is currently seeking treatment options. Wishing her and her family strength and hope for a positive outcome.

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.

Nanc Rixe knee replacement surgery scheduled for June 16

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

Alec Schwandt (Pam's Nephew) continued prayers for health issues

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 prayers for healing from recent surgery

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) upcoming procedures related to previous cancer diagnoses

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

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN DANGEROUS AREAS

TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

June 22

"Should I Be Worried About the Devil?"

(Luke 8:26-39)

Guest Speaker: Rev. German Novelli Oliveros

The devil is real, but rather than fretting about the evil he can do, we rejoice in all that Christ has done to defeat him.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

June 29

"Honest to God"

(Job 1:21)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Book of Job can teach us something about prayer and about how we can talk honestly to God, covered by Jesus.

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 8:37*

"Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned." The Gerasenes are upset with Jesus because His ministry led to the loss of their pig herd $\frac{3}{4}$ their wealth. They want Jesus to go away before He does any more damage to their bottom line. Their priorities are clear. What about our priorities? Is the work and ministry of Jesus worthy of our support and the sacrifice of some of our wealth?

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"Let your life be so focused on the grace of God in Christ that your eyes are open to the people He is bringing into your life even now, 'the least of these my brothers.' Do not worry about whether the world considers them influencers or nobodies. Be attentive to those in your sphere of influence as Christ Himself is attentive to you. Concerned citizens? Sure! It is important. But being concerned disciples of Jesus for others is what ultimately lasts." *Dr. Gregory Seltz, PhD, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – 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 **"Miracle in Chinatown"** — An engaged couple seeks a marriage blessing despite differences in tradition. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. Paul Preston from Zion Lutheran Church in Cleghorn, WI, presenting a message titled **"Risen from the Dead"** based on **Luke 16:19-31**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.