

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



## THE LORD'S PRAYER - SERIES #1: "The Purpose of Prayer"

**Order of Worship January 18, 2026 | 10:00 AM**  
**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

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

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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:** The good news is that Jesus answers the request, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). The Lord knows that we often pray in unhelpful ways (Matt. 6:5-8) and we often don't know what to say, but our God is gracious to help (Romans 8:26). Jesus teaches us how to pray with the Lord's Prayer. This prayer is more than just a single prayer to memorize. The Lord's Prayer provides the framework for any prayer and invites us into God's presence in a deep way. Each petition guides us to pour out our hearts to God in praise, petition, confession of sin, and thanksgiving. In this new sermon series, we will learn how to pray with the Lord's Prayer.

*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 for Bible Study featuring the Book of Ephesians***

# The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

**AS WE GATHER:** Prayer builds a personal relationship with God, like talking to a trusted friend. It reduces stress, anxiety, and negative emotions, offering peace and a sense of control. PRAYER CHANGES THINGS!

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

### "Seek Ye First"

**LSB 712**

*Text & Tune: © 1972 Maranatha! Music; admin. Music Services (ASCAP)*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness.  
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, but by ev'ry word  
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

## 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**

**"As the Deer"**

**Psalm 42**

*Martin Nystrom, © Copyright, 1984, this arr. © by Maranatha Music! CCLI # 1431*

As the deer panteth for the water, So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire, And I long to worship Thee.

**Refrain:**        You alone are my strength my shield;  
                      To You alone may my spirit yield.  
                      You alone are my heart's desire,  
                      And I long to worship Thee.

You're my friend and You are my brother, Even though You are my King.  
I love You more than any other. So much more than anything. **Refrain**

I want You more than gold or silver, Only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real Joy-giver And the apple of my eye. **Refrain**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Psalm 55:1-2, 16-19, 22**

Give ear to my prayer, O God, and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy! Attend to me, and answer me; I am restless in my complaint and I moan.

But I call to God, and the Lord will save me. Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice. He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage, for many are arrayed against me. God will give ear and humble them, he who is enthroned from of old, *Selah* because they do not change and do not fear God.

Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

**L:**     The Word of the Lord.

**C:**     **Thanks be to God!**

## **EPISTLE READING**

**1 John 5:10-15**

Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

## **GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 6:9-13 KJV**

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**L:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**"I Need Thee Every Hour"**

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Most gracious Lord;  
No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford.

### **Refrain**

I need Thee, oh, I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee;  
Oh, bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee.

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Stay Thou nearby;  
Temptations lose their pow'r When Thou art nigh.

**Refrain**

I need Thee ev'ry hour, In joy or pain;  
Come quickly and abide, Or life is vain.

**Refrain**

I need Thee ev'ry hour, Teach me Thy will;  
And Thy rich promises In me fulfill.

**Refrain**

## **MESSAGE**

**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

### **The Lord's Prayer Series #1: "The Purpose of Prayer"**

## **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**

**1/18 Sun**

### **Second Sunday after the Epiphany**

- 10:00 am**    **Worship Service w/Holy Communion  
w/Pastor Matthew Cephus**
- 11:00 am**    **GDLC Congregational Meeting**
- 11:45 am    Royal Family Worship
- 6:00 pm    NA

**1/19 Mon**

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed**

- 7:00 pm    Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)
- 7:00 pm    AIAnon (upstairs)
- 7:30 pm    SLAA Group Meeting

**1/20 Tues**

**1/21 Wed**

11:00 pm    Bible Study – Book of Ephesians

**1/23 Fri**

5:00 pm    Living Word Music Rehearsal

**1/24 Sat**

10:00 am    Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm    Living Word Prayer Night

**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

## **SERVING TODAY**

**Elder: Karmon Christopherson**

**Reading: Karmon Christopherson**

**Ushers: Morelli's**

**Altar Care: Morelli's**

**Counters: Morelli's**

**Attendance: 1/11/2026: 28**

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Please plan to attend today's annual Congregational Meeting following today's 10 am service. A recap of 2025 will be presented, as well as what is planned for 2026.

**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

**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.

**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) continued prayers as he continues treatment 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**

**January 18, 2026    "Outstanding Universal Value"    1 Corinthians 1:18-19**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Christian faith has the power to make us act better. But that's not the goal.

## **NEXT WEEK ON THE 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.

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:** *Second Sunday after Epiphany - John 1:29*

"The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'" The Israelites of old offered a lamb to God at Passover so that death might pass over them and do no harm. Over those long centuries of sacrifice, did they understand that this was actually God's gift? That God would be the true Giver of the true Lamb? Truly, we can never out-give God, for all that we have is His.

## **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

"Our task is to make sure that our fellow Lutherans and our neighbors know how much God loves us just as we are. Look at this fingerprint: God made each of us unique. There is no one else just like you. God knew you before you were born (Jeremiah 1:5). He knitted you together in your mother's womb. You were fearfully and wonderfully made, and God had a plan for your life even before you took a breath in this sinful, beautiful world that He created for you (Psalm 139:13-16)." *Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**Main Street Living** each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. This week's episode is "Live Option." A 15-year-old pregnant daughter and her mother disagree on the future of her child. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. Michael Salemink from Lutherans for Life presenting a message titled "From Invisible to Indispensable" based on 1 Corinthians 12:22. 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.

Sign-up sheets for **2026 Altar Care, Ushers, Flowers, and Candles** are available on the entryway bulletin board. Please select the week that aligns best with your schedule.

Flowers can be ordered through the Church at a rate of \$28 per bouquet, plus a \$12 delivery fee; alternatively, floral arrangements can be picked up at Pletcher's Floral, or you may provide your own. The cost of candles is \$6 each.

## *Recurring Community Wellness Walks*

Adults looking to connect with nature, meet new friends and move their bodies are invited to join free Wellness Walks at Silverwood Park. Walks are held twice a month: the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 pm, hosted by Amber Hanson, LN, CNS of Whole You Nutrition. For more details and to secure a spot, please register online at <https://l.btrr.to/vTrVs> or email [amber@wholeyounutrition.com](mailto:amber@wholeyounutrition.com).

Monday, we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr., who was the chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement, which protested racial discrimination in federal and state law and civil society. The movement led to several groundbreaking legislative reforms in the United States. The holiday was observed for the first time on January 20, 1986.

# "I have a dream."

"I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear."

**"THE TIME IS  
ALWAYS RIGHT TO  
DO WHAT IS RIGHT."**

-Martin Luther King Jr.

**"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."**

*"only in the darkness*

CAN YOU SEE THE STARS."

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is,

**"What are you doing for others?"**