

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



THE BOOK OF RUTH: "Restored to Fullness"

Order of Worship October 18, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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

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Pianist: Kay Knutson

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 climactic scene in the book of Ruth takes place in the city gate. Two kinsmen are poised to provide the rescue Naomi and Ruth desperately seek. The first steps in and says, "I'll do it," but immediately changes his mind when Boaz mentions Ruth. It's a confusing moment without the cultural context. But once we have that, it unlocks the story in a powerful way to see why the first one declines, and why Boaz redeems the women at a cost to himself. After this teaching, you'll be challenged to share in this costly and compelling love, and to consider how God's redemption for someone else might just look a whole lot like you.

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 on Wednesdays at 11 am for mid-day bible study, featuring the book of Ephesians. We will be wrapping up Chapter 5 walking in love and in the light of Christ and moving on to Chapter 6 a call to spiritual battle using the Armor of God.

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER: Christ has redeemed us like Boaz redeemed Ruth. In the most public way possible, Jesus redeemed us once and for all, a people of His possession. We are loved, indeed. And we are His.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461 v. 1-3

Text and Tune: Public Domain

I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my ever-living head!

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;
He lives all glorious in the sky; He lives exalted there on high.

He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.

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 unto 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 +

HYMN OF PRAISE

"There is a Redeemer"

Text and Music © 1982 Birdwing Music, Admin EMI

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain: Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
And leaving Your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Hope for sinners slain.

Refrain

When I stand in glory, I will see His face, and
There I'll serve my King forever, In that holy place.

Refrain

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ruth 4:1-11

Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, "Turn aside, friend; sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down. And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down. Then he said to the redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech. So I thought I would tell you of it and say, 'Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.' If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you." And he said, "I will redeem it." Then Boaz said, "The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance." Then the redeemer said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it." Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of attesting in Israel. So when the redeemer said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself," he drew off his sandal. Then Boaz said to the elders and all

the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day." Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING

John 10:7-10

L: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461 v. 4-6

Text and Tune: Public Domain

He lives to grant me rich supply; He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's complaint

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives my kind wise heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives my Prophet, Priest, and King.

Message

Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

The Book of Ruth: "Restored to Fullness"

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

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

LSB 461 v. 6-8

Text and Tune: Public Domain

He lives my kind wise heav'nly friend; He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing; He lives my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives all glory to His name! He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

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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Fall Craft & Bake Sale - October 24 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Autumn Woods Apartments, 2600 Kenzie Terrace, will hold a Fall Craft Sale on **Saturday, October 24**, in the lobby area from **10 am–2 pm**. Nine vendors will display unique handcrafted items and a large bake sale will include jams and much more. Flags will be posted near the parking lot and a sign on Kenzie Terrace at the traffic light the day of the event.

Truck or Treat Events – Saturday, October 24th

Bring your little monster to Huset Park, 3965 Jefferson Street NE, from **1-4 pm** to explore Columbia Heights' trucks and get a Halloween treat. Pet costume contest at 2:30. Ghosts and goblins are invited to St. Anthony's Trunk or Treat from **3-5 pm**, in the Central Park lot south of the fire station. Expect decorated vehicles, touch a truck, costumes, treats, giveaways and "not-so-scary" fun.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

10/18 Sun	Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost	
	10:00 am	Worship Service w/Holy Communion Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus
	11:45 am	Royal Family Worship
	6:00 pm	NA
10/19 Mon	7:00 pm	Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)
	7:00 pm	AIAnon (upstairs)
10/20 Tues	5:00 pm	GDLC Council Meeting
	7:30 pm	SLAA Group Meeting
10/21 Wed	11:00 am	GDLC Bible Study
10/23 Fri	5:00 pm	Living Word Music Rehearsal
10/24 Sat	10:00 am	Living Word Worship & Fellowship
	4:00 pm	Living Word Board Meeting
	6:00 pm	Living Word Prayer Night
10/25 Sun	Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost	
	10:00 am	Worship Service w/Holy Communion Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus
	11:45 am	Royal Family Worship
	6:00 pm	NA

SERVING TODAY

Elders: Daniel Carlson and Jason Matasovsky

Reading: Sandy Westling

Ushers: Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer

Altar Care: Pam Morelli and Tom & Patty Lyrenmann

Counters: Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer

Attendance: 10/08/2026: 24

Gloria Dei recently donated 29 pounds of food to the Northeast Salvation Army Food Shelf. Thank you for your generous giving!

BIRTHDAYS: None
ANNIVERSARIES: None

ETERNAL CANDLE: Open

FLOWERS: Open

PRAYER CONCERNS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Wade Billmeyer, Karmon & Meridel Christopherson, Robert & Dolores Kluwe, Larry Schlais, Pat Scott, Verlayne Sather and all our shut-ins

Katie Beth Carlson's grandmother, Roxanne Soderman, is experiencing complications related to heart failure. She has been hospitalized for 2-1/2 weeks and is now in a nursing home for rehab; she will then be released to hospice care at home. Grandpa, Bud, is still her main caregiver. Prayers for peace, comfort and a miracle healing.

Roselyn Norman (John & Mary, Neighbors) Loss their 16-year-old daughter, Danielle, to an aneurysm. Pray for acceptance and peace.

Michelle (Shirley H's friend) suffering with vertigo and doctors just found a lesion on her brain.

Evelyn Cummings (Roselyn's family) breast cancer, double mastectomy and treatment pending

Allie Pierce, her cancer has returned

James Norman His cancer and pain have worsened. He is also losing weight fast.

Alec Schwandt (Morelli's nephew) heart surgery procedure successful, thank you for all the prayers

Jennifer (Amy Rich's sister) recovering from recent breast cancer treatments

Roxie Johnson (Morelli's niece) ongoing heart issues, upcoming surgery to replace small valve on August 24

Kim Morelli and Amy Rich (Morelli's DnLs) both doing well with current cancer treatments, thank you for your continued prayers

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

October 18, 2026

"The Heart of the Matter"

Matthew 22:15-22

Guest Speaker: Pastor Ryan Tinetti

How do you respond to tough questions about God and faith? Hear how Jesus delivers us from the tightest of tight spots and keeps us from falling into a trap.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

October 25, 2026

"Relief"

Romans 3:23-24

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

You don't have to earn God's favor. It is the relief waiting to find us before we even knew we had a problem.

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: *21st Sunday after Pentecost - Matthew 22:21*

"Then he said to them, 'Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'" So what is Jesus saying? Doesn't everything belong to God? Yes — and God has a place for everything. Some of what He gives us goes to Caesar. Some must come back to the work of His church. And some goes to support the families He has given us. All belongs to God, and He has work for us to do with what He has given us in the home, in the church and in society.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"Do not be silent. You have the most positive, powerful, life-giving, and life-affirming message in the universe! It is a message of love for every sinner, i.e., everyone! It is a message of forgiveness for everyone and every sin. It is a message of the certain hope of a paradise whose reality surpasses the most beautiful of words." *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – 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, **"Some People Need Help, Sergeant."** An amputee from a Veteran's hospital must learn that hurting others will not help him. The worship service begins at 9:30 with Rev. Ben Hollingsead from St. John Lutheran Church in Aitkin, MN, presenting a message titled **"Whose Image Do You Bear?"** based on **Matthew 22:15–22**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities' tab.

Collection for Operation Christmas Child Has Started!



The Board of Social Ministries is sponsoring *Operation Christmas Child* for the 2026 holiday season.

Shoebox collection begins on **Sunday, October 18** and runs through **Sunday, November 15**. The gift filled shoeboxes will be delivered on Monday, November 16.

Samaritan's Purse will send the shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Many shoebox recipients also participate in a 12-

lesson follow-up discipleship program, *The Greatest Journey*.

Here is what you do: **(1)** Find a Shoebox - You can use any empty shoebox or shoebox-sized plastic container. **(2)** Girl or Boy? - Decide whether you will pack for a girl or a boy and the age category: Age groups are 2 - 4, 5 - 9, 10 - 14. **(3)** Fill with Gifts. You may also want to include a personal note and photo—sometimes these are the child's favorite things to receive! **(4)** Pray - Pray for the child who will receive your gifts. **(5)** Follow your box - remember to include \$10 (per box) for shipping. **(6)** Drop-Off your shoebox(es) at church no later than Sunday, November 15.

A few helpful hints to make it easier for you to fill the shoeboxes:

Toys - Play cars/trucks/boats, foam balls, finger puppets, dolls, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, Slinky, interactive toys that include push buttons, lights, noise (include extra batteries), plastic tools, plastic dinosaurs.

Personal Care Items - Comb/hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, adhesive bandages (non-medicated, colorful ones -- do not include liquid antibiotic ointment), reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, (consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as hair bows, bracelets, markers, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space).

Clothing and Accessories - Shirts and pants, Pillowcase dress (loose-fitting sundress), underwear, shoes and socks, Flip-flops, sunglasses, hat/scarf/mittens, tote bag/purse, hair bows, friendship bracelets (woven with yarn or embroidery thread).

Craft and Activity Items - Pencils/pens, small manual pencil sharpener, colored pencils w/case, Crayons, markers, coloring pads, coloring books, picture book, notebooks, glue stick (do not include liquid glue), small adhesive tape, watercolor set, Playdough (consider adding plastic cookie cutters as non-sharp utensils the child can use with the playdough), stickers, building blocks.

Do Not Include - SOAP, Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures (or wearable camouflage); chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.