

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



THE BOOK OF RUTH: "TRUSTING GOD'S CHARACTER"

Order of Worship October 25, 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: Today, we will examine the astonishing ending to the book of Ruth. Most stories build to a climactic scene and then conclude with falling action. Instead, Ruth goes out with a bang in the form of a genealogy loaded with unexpected surprises. According to the genealogy, Ruth becomes the grandmother of king David, Israel's most beloved king. In doing so, God doesn't just redeem a family, He redeems an entire nation. Later, Matthew will incorporate this genealogy into the genealogy of Jesus to show that Jesus made space for outsiders because He himself came from a long line of outsiders! In the story of Ruth, God is at work in ways far beyond our ability to comprehend.

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-Second Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER: In the final episode of our series on Ruth, you will see that trusting God's character rather than your circumstances will give you the ability to spot God's hidden presence in your life.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN **"The Church's One Foundation"** **LSB 644 v. 1, 2, 4**
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.

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.

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

"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

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ruth 4:18-22

Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron, Hezron fathered Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab, Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon, Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed, Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:5-6,16

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.

The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might we would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot over-pow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

Message**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus****The Book of Ruth: "Trusting God's Character"****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

"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

LSB 660

Text & music: Public domain

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; ye soldiers of the cross.

Lift high His royal banner; it must not suffer loss.

From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead

Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; the trumpet call obey;

Stand forth in mighty conflict in this His glorious day.

Let all His faithful serve Him against unnumbered foes;

Let courage rise with danger and strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; stand in His strength alone.

The arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own.

Put on the Gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer.

Where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; the strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, the next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming, their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory shall reign eternally.

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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Collection for Operation Christmas Child Runs Through November 15

The gift filled shoeboxes should be dropped off at Gloria Dei no later than Sunday, November 15. The Board of Social Ministry will deliver the shoeboxes 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.

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.

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.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

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

10/26 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AlAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AlAnon (upstairs)

10/27 Tues

7:30 pm SLAA Group Meeting

10/28 Wed

11:00 am GDLC Bible Study

10/30 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

10/31 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

11/01 Sun

Twenty-Third 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: Verlayne Sather

Ushers: Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli

Altar Care: Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli

Counters: Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli

Attendance: 10/18/2026: 24

Volunteer with Prepare + Prosper

Prepare + Prosper, a nonprofit financial empowerment organization at 2125 East Hennepin Ave., is recruiting community members to volunteer during the 2027 tax season (January – April). Opportunities include tax preparer or customer support volunteer. No previous tax experience is required; training and support are provided. Bilingual and multilingual individuals are especially encouraged to learn more. Register for info sessions at prepareandprosper.org/volunteer/.

BIRTHDAYS: None
ANNIVERSARIES: None

ETERNAL CANDLE: Open

FLOWERS: Last Week's Beautiful Flowers were supplied by Kay & Mark Knutson for their Anniversary. Happy Anniversary!!

PRAYER CONCERNS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Wade Billmeyer, Karmon & Meridel Christopherson, Vicki Henderson, 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.

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 (Morelli's DnLs) upcoming surgery the week of 10/26, continued prayers

Amy Rich (Morelli's DnLs) recovering from recent surgery, 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.

**Pick up your FREE 2027 Wall Calendar.
Compliments of Washburn McReavy.**

TODAY'S 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.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

November 1, 2026

"What We Will Be"

1 John 3:2

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

What we will be has not yet appeared. But even now, we are God's adopted children, through faith in Christ.

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: *Reformation Day (Observed) - John 8:36*

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." Today we celebrate Reformation Day! Luther is rightly remembered as a champion of the Gospel — but he also called himself "the apostle of good works." For, only by being set free by the Gospel, can we do good works. Jesus has set us free: His blood covers our sins, and now we stand before God as His beloved children, invited to live our lives to His glory for the good of His kingdom.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"Today God continues to defend and aid His people, those who trust in His Son as their Savior. God is ever with us. He preserves His Word and Church despite the constant attack of the devil, the unbelieving world, and false teachers. God provides for all our needs of body and soul, even in times of great need and conflict. God is our refuge. His Word endures forever. His grace and power never fail." *From "Meditations on Favorite Scriptures: Devotions for a Year" – 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, **"The Sexton."** A pastor and a sexton (church caretaker) with magical powers fight an eerie duel in a church. The worship service begins at 9:30 with Rev. Jordon Andreasen, LCMS missionary serving in Brasov, Romania, presenting a message titled, **"The Good News: An Offense,"** based on **John 8:31-36**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities' tab.