

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



## Mighty Warrior

### Biblical Images of God: Part IV- "MIGHTY WARRIOR"

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

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

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**Pianist: Rebecca Tredray**

# **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:** Many people go through life unaware that they're caught in the middle of a cosmic war, where the forces of good and evil are in constant conflict. In this teaching, you'll gain a fresh perspective on how God fights against chaos, spiritual darkness, and injustice, but more importantly, how you can step into the fight armed with truth. If you're ready to wake up to the battle, claim your identity in Christ, and join Jesus in pushing back the kingdom of darkness, this message will equip you to stand firm and take action.

*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.

# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

**AS WE GATHER:** The struggles we face—discouragement, temptation, and spiritual opposition—aren't random but part of spiritual battle. The good news is that we're not defenseless; God is a warrior who fights for His people, and through Jesus, the ultimate victory has already been won.

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN

**"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

**LSB 770**

*Text and Tune : Public Domain*

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear-  
All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged-- Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness-- Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden, Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--- Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

### 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**

### **"Blessed Assurance"**

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

**Refrain**      This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight!  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

**Refrain**

Perfect submission - all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

**Refrain**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

**Exodus 15:1-11, 18**

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying, "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name.

"Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy. In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble. At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.' You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

"Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

The Lord will reign forever and ever."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

## NEW SCRIPTURE READING

**Revelation 19:11-16**

### *The Rider on a White Horse*

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

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

***Jesus Heals a Man with a Demon***

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones. And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

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. 1,2,3,4**

*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.

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

## MESSAGE

Matthew Cephus

### Biblical Images of God: Part IV – “Mighty Warrior”

#### 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. 5,6,7,8**

*Text and Tune: Public Domain*

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.

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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## **You're Invited**

Please join us in celebrating the 65th Wedding Anniversary of our beloved Karmon and Meridel Christopherson—a rare and beautiful milestone! To honor this special occasion, we will gather for an afternoon of joy, gratitude, and memories.

The festivities will begin with a special music program at 4 pm featuring cherished hymns and favorite songs that have marked their journey together. Following the program, dinner will be served in the Fellowship Hall (at approximately 5 pm) and all are invited.

Let us come together on Saturday, September 6 as a community to reflect on a legacy of steadfast love and to wish many more years of happiness.

Please RSVP to Lisa at 320-288-6743 before September 1 if you plan to attend.

## **OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**8/10 Sun**

### **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:00 am**     **Worship with Holy Communion,  
w/Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am     Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm     NA

**8/11 Mon**

7:00 pm     Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm     AIAnon (upstairs)

**8/06 Wed**

7:30 pm     SLAA Group Meeting

**8/08 Fri**

5:00 pm     Living Word Music Rehearsal

**8/09 Sat**

10:00 am     Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm     Living Word Prayer Night

**8/10 Sun**

### **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:00 am**     **Worship with Holy Communion,  
w/Pastor Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am     Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm     NA

## **SERVING TODAY**

**Elder: Karmon Christopherson**

**Reading: Jason Matasovsky**

**Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Altar Care: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Counters: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann**

**Attendance: 8/03/2025: 27**

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### Fellowship following Sunday Services

As we enter a new month, please note an updated process.

If you'd like to bring treats for Fellowship following the service, kindly sign up on the sheet located in the entryway. Only those who have signed up should provide treats for that Sunday. If no one signs up for a particular week, treats will not be available.

**Both homemade and store-bought items are acceptable;** please contribute as your schedule allows.

Your participation helps foster community and conversation. Whether you bake a family favorite or pick up something on your way, every contribution is appreciated!

**BIRTHDAYS:** None

**ANNIVERSARIES:** None

**ETERNAL CANDLE:** Roselyn Norman, In Memory of Bob & Muriel Heyer

**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

**Karen Charpentier** (Ken Biebighauser's sister) going through cancer treatment

**Pam Eilers** (Shirley Slagle's friend) recovering from a brain aneurysm (surgery)

**Danielle Ohnstad** currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer

**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 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**

*Gwen Johnson extends her appreciation to everyone for their kind words while she was not feeling well and recovering from bronchitis. She is on her way to feeling better every day.*

## **TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR**

**August 10**

**"Writing Him Off"**

**(Luke 4:21-32)**

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

After Jesus claimed the Old Testament was written about Him, the people of His hometown wrote Him off.

## **NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR**

**August 17**

**"The Stuttering Man of Destiny"**

**(Exodus 4:10-12)**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann

Archives August--Dr. Oswald Hoffmann recounts the story of Moses.

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:** *Luke 12:24*

"Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them." God feeds the birds of the air, this we know. It's just that, as one wit put it: God sometimes feeds the birds....to the cats! Yes, crosses and hardships will always come — Christ said that no disciple is above his Master. But through it all, the Lord cares for us and He calls upon us to entrust ourselves to that care. He really is our Father, and He really will guard and keep us through whatever this life has to throw at us. And in the end, we shall receive the gift of eternal life.

### **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

"Our Lord Jesus Christ assures us that the Heavenly Father makes His love for our kind evident in sunshine and rainfall (Matthew 5:45) along with sparrows and lilies (Matthew 6:25-33). So, we may expect to learn about the sanctity of every human life not only from His Word but also from His world." *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://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 **"No Tears for Bill"** — A widow struggles with her past and upcoming marriage. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. David Petrich from St. James Lutheran Church in Holland, MN, presenting a message titled **"Faith in the Face of Fear"** based on **Hebrews 11:1-16**. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) select the "Twin Cities" tab.