

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



"The Church"

Order of Worship March 8, 2026 | 10:00 AM
Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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

www.gloriadeilcms.org

email: info@gloriadeilcms.org

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 church in summary is not a building or a denomination. According to the Bible, the church is the body of Christ—all those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:13). Local churches are gatherings of people who claim the name of Christ. Members of a local church may or may not be members of the universal church, depending on the genuineness of their faith. The local church is where believers can fully apply the “body” principles of 1 Corinthians Chapter 12—encouraging, teaching, and building one another up in the knowledge and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 for Wednesday Bible Study, each Wednesday at 11 am
Featuring the Book of Ephesians***

The Third Sunday in Lent

AS WE GATHER: The church belongs to Christ, serving as His body, bride, and kingdom, with Jesus as its supreme head, authority, and owner. As a spiritual entity rather than a building, the church is bought with His blood, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and called to reflect God's love.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

LSB 575

Text & Music: Public Domain

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness
No merit of my own I claim but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

**Refrain: On Christ the solid rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.

Refrain

His oath, His covenant and blood support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne!

Refrain

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

"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

Isaiah 43:8-12

Bring out the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears! All the nations gather together, and the peoples assemble. Who among them can declare this, and show us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to prove them right, and let them hear and say, It is true. "You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the

Lord, and besides me there is no savior. I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and I am God."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 2:18-22

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:18

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Church's One Foundation"

LSB 644

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.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

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.

Yet she on earth has union, With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion, With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace,
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

MESSAGE

"The Church"

Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" LSB 918

Text and Music: Public Domain

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, be Thou still my strength and shield;
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee.
I will ever give to Thee.

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

3/08 Sun

Third Sunday in Lent

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

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

3/09 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

3/10 Tues

7:30 pm SLAA Group Meeting

3/11 Wed

11:00 am **Bible Study featuring the Book of Ephesians**

3/13 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

3/14 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

3/15 Sun

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

SERVING TODAY

Elders: Daniel Carlson and Jason Matasovsky

Reading: Sandy Westling

Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann

Altar Care: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann

Counters: Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather

Attendance: 3/01/2026: 29

Easter Holiday Services Dates and Times

Palm Sunday, March 29 | 10 am Worship Service, w/Distribution of Palm Branches

Maundy Thursday, April 2 | 5 pm Worship Service

Good Friday, April 3 | 5 pm Worship Service

Easter Sunday, April 5 | 10 am Worship Service

BIRTHDAYS: None

ANNIVERSARIES: None

ETERNAL CANDLE: Shirley Holzinger – Brother Larry’s birthday (March 10)

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

For all our Neighbors who are taking turns on Community Watch Walks
Maude Jacomet (Roselyn’s sister) recently lost her husband, keep in prayer for God to comfort her and her bereaved family

Larry Derksen (Shirley & Vicki’s brother) going through treatment at VA for seizures

Greg (Wade’s friend) heart valve replacement, prayers for strength and recovery

Alec Schwandt (Morelli’s nephew) upcoming procedure to remove heart fibulator, prayers for success and healing

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.

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

March 8, 2026 **"What Was the Price on That?"** **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

When we couldn't pay the price of our redemption, God did so completely by the life of Jesus.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

March 15, 2026 **No Command from the Lord"** **1 Corinthians 7:6-7**
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Jesus is the only way to God, but there are many adventures with Jesus. Which ones will you pick?

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: *Third Sunday in Lent - Exodus 17:3*

"But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?'" Even the Israelites, who saw miracles with their own eyes, fell into unbelief and fear. From this distance we can see how foolish their worry is. How foolish will our worries appear from the distance of eternity? The Lord cared for them, and He will care for us.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"The call to be disciples of Jesus who live out our faith each day and, in so doing, work to make disciples of others, has never been greater ... We need to boldly proclaim what God has done for us in Christ. Not in a spirit of superiority or power, but in a posture of love and grace." *Bishop Dan Selbo, North American Lutheran Church – 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 Healer."** Dave Forman (Gary Collins) is a dynamic "faith healer" who becomes angered by the drowning death of his daughter. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. Eric Obermann from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lakefield, MN, presenting a message titled, **"Were,"** based on **Romans 5:8**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.

EASTER GARDEN

Easter Sunday is April 5th! If you wish to contribute to the Easter Garden this year, below is a list of flowers available. We will be ordering from Pletscher's Greenhouse. Your order deadline is **Sunday, March 15**. As always, you can bring your own too! Please use the sign-up sheet on the entryway bulletin board. Thanks!

Easter Lily	\$10.99
Calla Lily (Yellow, White, Pink, Assorted)	\$22.99
Azaleas (Pink, White, Red, Assorted)	\$24.99
Hydrangea (Blue, Pink, White, Assorted)	\$22.99
Mums (White, Yellow, Lavender, Assorted)	\$15.99



Do you have pictures from past church services, holidays or special events you are willing to share? GDLC is collecting photos to be used in a presentation for the 75th Anniversary Celebration on May 17th. Please bring your pictures to church and either place them in the Secretary's mailbox OR give them directly to Tom Harris by **March 15**. Make sure your name is written on the back of each photo so they can be returned to you. Thank you for your support!

Invitation to GDLC's 75th Anniversary Celebration – May 17, 2026

Our planning committee is actively organizing Gloria Dei's 75th Anniversary Celebration and they need your help to make this event memorable. If you know someone who would like to attend this special event, you are encouraged to let us know. To do so, call the office at 612-781-1989 OR email info@gloriadeilcms.org with their contact information. This will help us extend invitations and ensure all interested guests are invited. Your help in connecting with our extended community is greatly appreciated!

Youth Care International Fund

Gloria Dei helps to support Royal Family's children's mission in Liberia via the **Youth Care International** fund. Donations help build schools, provide meals and supplies, run Bible camps, and back Pastor Matthew's spring trip. Pastor Matthew and Patience will be in Liberia from April 6 to May 2, 2026 supporting this great project. To donate, mark your envelope with "*Youth Care International*."

March is Minnesota FoodShare Month!

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign began its work to restock food shelves in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area and now unites organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to support nearly 300 local food shelves. All donations during the March Campaign go to the FoodFund for distribution to participating food shelves, aiming to ensure all Minnesotans have access to healthy food. Join their efforts to fight food insecurity and work toward lasting change.