

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



*Palm
Sunday*

"The Lord Has Need of You"

Order of Worship March 29, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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

www.gloriadeilcms.org

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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: Jesus Christ, our King enters Jerusalem triumphantly on a donkey.

A special welcome to visitors and guests; we are pleased that you have joined us today and invite you to worship with us every Sunday at 10 am! 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.

*No Wednesday Bible Study during April. We will resume May 4.
Maundy Thursday service Thursday, April 2 at 5 pm
Good Friday service Friday, April 3 at 5 pm
Easter Sunday Service Sunday, April 5 at 10 am*

Palm Sunday

AS WE GATHER: Palm Sunday reminds us about the day Jesus entered Jerusalem triumphantly. He didn't come to establish an earthly kingdom but first the spiritual kingdom.

+ CONNECT +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SOLO

"The King is Coming"

Karmon Christopherson

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 ready to forgive.

C: **Merciful Father, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We also confess that we have not done all that is possible to promote peace and justice in our world. 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

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

LSB 442 vs. 1,2,4,5

Text and Tune: Public Domain

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor To You Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel And David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, Our King and Blessed One.

Refrain

The company of angels Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation In chorus make reply.

Refrain

To You before Your Passion, They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted. Our melody we raise.

Refrain

As You receive their praises, Accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing, Our good and gracious King.

Refrain

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-38

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

LSB 427

Text & Tune: Public domain

In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes deceive, and fear annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure by the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

MESSAGE "The Lord Has Need of You" 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

"Ride On, Ride on in Majesty"

LSB 441 v. 1,3,5

Text and Tune: Public Domain

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road, With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! The angel armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die.
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain, then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

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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SERVING TODAY

Elder: Daniel Carlson and Jason Matasovsky

Reading: Julie Cross

Ushers: Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli

Altar Care: Pam and Aaron Morelli

Counters: Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli

Attendance: 3/22/2026: 27

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

3/29 Sun

Palm Sunday

10:00 am **Worship Service w/Holy Communion +
Distribution of Palm Branches
w/Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA

3/30 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

3/31 Tues

7:30 pm SLAA Group Meeting

4/01 Wed

NO Bible Study

4/02 Thurs

5:00 pm **Holy Thursday Service w/Holy Communion**

4/03 Fri

5:00 pm **Good Friday Service**

6:30 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

4/04 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

4/05 Sun

Easter Sunday

10:00 am **Worship Service w/Holy Communion
w/Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**

11:45 am Royal Family Worship

6:00 pm NA



BIRTHDAYS: 31st Juliana Morelli

ANNIVERSARIES: 1st Bob & Dolores Kluwe; 3rd Richard & Diane Volner

ETERNAL CANDLE: Sandy Westling, Granddaughter Cassie's birthday

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

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

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 29, 2026

"Dime-Sized"

1 Corinthians 13:11

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God doesn't look for valuable, desirable, beautiful people so that He can love them. God loves first, and by loving them He makes people valuable, desirable, and beautiful.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

April 5, 2026 "You Don't Know What You Have Till It's Gone" 1 Corinthians 15:26

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Death is the enemy of life, but in Jesus, God made death become life's servant.

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: Palm Sunday - Matthew 21:3

"If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." Did Jesus really need the donkey? If the man had refused to give the donkey, would the work of salvation have been derailed? Of course not. But what an honor for the man who owned this donkey and foal! Likewise, with us — the Lord needs none of us, but what an honor for God to choose to use our generosity in the work of His church.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"No place on earth should be a safer refuge for that tiny innocent child than the womb, the place of *racham*, the place of mercy. Abortion invades and destroys that refuge, that mercy, at its very source. Sadly, abortion has become a part of the brutalization of human life, a sad commentary on the cruelty of human nature." *Rev. Paul Clark, Lutherans For Life of Michigan – 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 Twisting Road.**" A young man and his wife deal with life, the future, and regrets of things left unspoken. The worship service begins at 9:30 am with Rev. David Petrich from St. James Lutheran Church in Holland, MN, presenting a message titled, "**Popularity Vs. Commitment,**" based on **John 12:12-19**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Expire March 31!

If you have Thrivent Choice Dollars, they expire Tuesday, March 31. You can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church before they expire. **With your generosity, GDLC received \$1,150 for 2025.** You must renew the distribution of your Choice Dollars every year. There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars. Go to www.thrivent.com and click on Generosity or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "choice dollars," a representative will come on the line to help.

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 April 30, 2026 supporting this great project. To donate, mark your envelope with "*Youth Care International.*"

In-Person Pre-Planning Funeral Seminar

This pre-planning seminar will be hosted by Washburn-McReavy and held at Gloria Dei. Learn how preplanning for funeral and cremation services can help you protect your family in the future. If you have an interest in attending, please call the church office at 612-781-1989. Dates are to be determined.

Pre-planning is determining the details of your funeral and cemetery services in advance. With a plan, you'll reduce stress for grieving loved ones—and simply let them honor and celebrate your life, knowing things are happening just as you wanted.

Some of the topics to be covered, include:

Why funeral services are important for the loved ones left behind; The different types of funeral services and the common reasons people prearrange funeral services; What are the benefits of prearranging funeral services; What is the VA's veteran burial benefits?; How do I protect assets from Medicaid?; What if I die away from home?; What if I move away from the area?; Can I donate my body to science?

The free session will consist of a 30-minute informational "pre-planning" presentation and options for the future and a 30-minute Q&A.