

# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Royal Family Church

*(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*



*"A Word of Peace"*

**Order of Worship May 24, 2026 | 10:30 AM**  
**Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus**  
**with Guest Pastor Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford,**  
**President, Minnesota South District**

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

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**Pianist: Sue Cvek**

# **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:** Pentecost is universally recognized by Christians as the birthday of the Church. It marks the moment the Apostles were empowered to begin their public ministry, spreading Christianity beyond Jerusalem. Today, we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus, an event that birthed the early Church.

*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.

***No Bible Study on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Happy Memorial Day!  
We will resume June 3<sup>rd</sup> with the Book of Ephesians.***

# Pentecost Sunday

**AS WE GATHER:** Pentecost marks the birthing of the church. It's the day when God decided the way the world would be evangelized. Not only by the singular ministry of His Son, Jesus Christ, but by the anointed and empowered efforts of every believer.

+ *CONNECT* +

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

## "Shout to the Lord"

**By Don Moen**

*Songwriters: Darlene Joyce Zschech - Shout to the Lord lyrics © Music Services, Inc.*

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You.  
All of my days, I want to praise, The wonders of Your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength.  
Let every breath, all that I am, Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing. Power and majesty, praise to the King.  
Mountains bow down, and the seas will roar, At the sound of Your name.

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,  
Forever I'll love You, Forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like You.  
All of my days, I want to praise, The wonders of Your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, Tower of refuge and strength.  
Let every breath, all that I am, Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing. Power and majesty, praise to the king.  
Mountains bow down, and the seas will roar, At the sound of Your name.

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,  
Forever I'll love You, Forever I'll stand.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

## **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.**

L: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**C: Alleluia!**

## **CONFESSION OF OUR SINS**

L: We aren't ready, Lord. It is easier for us to hide in the upper rooms of our lives, to let the world go by and not acknowledge your presence.

**C: But you have challenged us to come alive again with your love and words of healing mercy.**

L: Forgive our hesitant witness and our complacent spirits. Heal our fears and our wounds. Help us to be agents of healing and hope for others.

**C: Challenge and inspire us to overcome our feelings of inadequacy and remind us that you have called us beloved and have given us what we need to proclaim your Good News. In Jesus' Name, Amen.**

## **FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Let us pray.

**C: Holy God, ignite within us a fiery passion for your mission in the world today. Warm us by the Spirit's dancing tongues of flame, that we may feel your kindling blaze within, urging us to do your greater good. Make us wholly present to experience a new birth and awaken possibilities within us to share your love in the world. In this love and abundance, we come to celebrate your harvest—a harvest bearing the first fruits of**

**the Spirit within us. Show us how to use these gifts, as we listen for your truth in the rushing winds and gentle breezes of your Spirit. Amen.**

*+ 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**

**Genesis 11:1-9**

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face

of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **EPISTLE READING**

**Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

"And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL READING

**John 14:23-32**

Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### "Shine Jesus Shine"

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Lord, the light of Your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness shining;  
Jesus, light of the World shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Refrain:** Shine, Jesus, Shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, Blaze, Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, River, Flow Flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth Your Word, Lord, And let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
Shine on me, Shine on me.

**Refrain**

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display Your likeness,  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on me, Shine on me.

**Refrain**

## **MESSAGE**

### **"A Word of Peace"**

**Guest Pastor Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford, President, Minnesota South District**

## **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**

**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.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

### **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**

#### **"To God Be the Glory"**

*Text and Music: Public Domain*

To God be the glory, great things He has done;  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

**Refrain:** Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

**Refrain**

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

**Refrain**

## **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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## May/June Spring Offering

The 2026 May/Spring Offering will go to **Trinity First Lutheran School** located at 1115 East 19th Street, Minneapolis. **Use your "May Mission Offering"** envelopes to make a donation.

Trinity First School is in the heart of Minneapolis and provides a Christ-based education to children through the eighth grade. The School works to be known as a high-quality educational center for children, their families, and the community. Trinity First is 100% faith focused and faith is integrated into everything they do. 70% of their students are on full scholarships. With class sizes averaging 15 students, they strive to meet each students' needs while supporting and encouraging learners to become productive citizens.

## Gloria Dei will participate in the Annual Northeast Garage Sales!

If you would like to eliminate some of the clutter at your house, why not donate it to the church's garage sale? Now is the perfect time! Mary Piper is organizing this event to coincide with the Fifteenth Annual 2026 NEighbors Garage Sale! The sale will take place on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 18–20. Please drop off your items at Mary's house (2955 Benjamin Street NE) by Sunday, June 14—just leave them at the side garage door. **All proceeds will benefit Gloria Dei.** Items that don't sell will be donated to local thrift stores. Thank you!

## Northeast Community Band at Como

The Northeast Community Band will perform a free concert at the Como Park Pavilion, 1360 Lexington Pkwy N, St. Paul, **Thursday, May 28, 7 pm.** It will be an all-John Williams concert, featuring "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Midway March" and "The Cowboys."

## Plant Swap Party - May 30 @ 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Bring something to trade—plants, cuttings, seedlings, seeds, pots or tools—or just come by and see what you find. Use the repotting station. Not into plants? Hands-on art and craft activities will be held throughout the afternoon, visit the photo booth. Bonus: MPRB will give away a limited number of flower, vegetable, and herb plants—first come, first served. This event will be held at Graco Park, 810 Sibley Street NE, **Saturday, May 30, 12-4 pm.**



## **TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR**

**May 24, 2026**

**"Misery Loves Company"**

**Acts 2:38**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

It's often said, "Misery loves company." Christ comes to us in our misery with God's love and mercy.

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

**May 31, 2026**

**"A Friendly Recommendation"**

**Genesis 1:26**

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

What happens when you find out that acquiring everything you've ever wanted... still isn't enough?

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:** *The Day of Pentecost - Acts 2:1*

"When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place." Pentecost is the Old Testament harvest festival, taking place around the time when the wheat and oats are ready to be brought in. Of course, this was an image and foreshadowing of the great harvest of humankind that God means to carry out through the preaching of His Word. God gives the seed, and God brings about the harvest. From first to last, in things temporal and things eternal, we stand only by His grace.

## **LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:**

"In grief, the world often feels empty. The absence of loved ones weighs heavily, leaving our days feeling hollow and incomplete without their presence. And yet, Scripture tells us that in these moments of deep sorrow, God draws near. He does not stand at a distance, waiting for us to be strong enough to move on with our life. He comes to us, holds us in our brokenness, and carries us when we cannot stand." *Rev. M.L. Smith, Director of International Missions of Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) – 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 **"The Smash Up."** A group of friends struggle with lingering guilt after an accident. The worship service begins at 9:30 with Rev. Bart Day, CEO of Lutheran Church Extension Fund in St. Louis, MO, presenting a message for Pentecost Sunday. This program is interpreted and closed-captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. For more information or to watch the program, go to [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com) select the "Twin Cities" tab.