

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)



COMMIT YOUR WAY TO GOD:
"THE GOAL IS TO ROLL"

Order of Worship July 26, 2026 | 10:00 AM
Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

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612-781-1989

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Pianist: Rebecca Tredray

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: In Psalm 37:5, David tells his readers to be committed to God, including with their trust, which is the essence of "faith." The Hebrew root word translated "commit" literally means "to roll." In Hebrew, this is used figuratively to describe handing over, seeking, or consigning something.

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.

**Note: Wednesday Bible Study will be taking the summer off.
No classes in July or August. We will resume on September 16th.**

Nineth Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER: Many of us want to walk God's path, but we want to walk it our way. Our comforts, conveniences, and personal preferences hold us back from walking God's path, God's way. Allow God's path form how you walk.

+ *CONNECT* +

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

LSB 702

Text & Tune: Public Domain

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart; my zeal inspire!
As Thou has died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!

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

"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

Psalms 37:1-7a

Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 5:8-17

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 22:41-43

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Trust and Obey"

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
But is blessed if we trust and obey.

Refrain

But we never can prove the delights of His love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
Or we'll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do, where He sends we will go;
Never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain

Message

Rev. Dr. Matthew Cephus

Commit Your Way to God: "The Goal is to Roll"

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

"'Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Public Domain

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His Word;
Just to rest upon His promise, Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!

I'm so glad I learned to trust Him, Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that He is with me, Will be with me to the end.

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!
Oh, for grace to trust Him more!

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

7/26 Sun

Nineth 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

7/27 Mon

7:00 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)

7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs)

7/28 Tues

7:30 pm SLAA Group Meeting

7/29 Wed

NO Bible Study

7/31 Fri

5:00 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal

8/01 Sat

10:00 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship

6:00 pm Living Word Prayer Night

8/02 Sun

Tenth 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: Julie Cross

Ushers: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann

Altar Care: Morellis and Lyrenmanns

Counters: Tom and Patty Lyrenmann

Attendance: 7/19/2026: 27

BIRTHDAYS: 28th Jason Matasovsky

ANNIVERSARIES: None

ETERNAL CANDLE: Sandy Westling – Steve’s birthday (son)

FLOWERS: OPEN

PRAYER CONCERNS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Wade Billmeyer, Karmon & Meridel Christopherson, Robert & Dolores Kluwe, Larry Schlais, Pat Scott, Verlayne Sather and all our shut-ins

James Norman His cancer and pain have worsened. He is also losing weight fast.

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

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

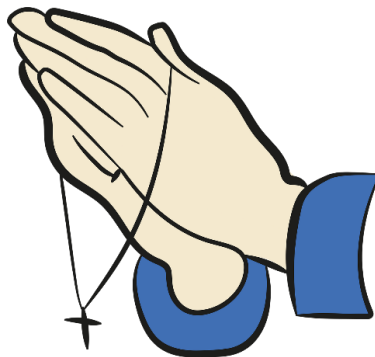
Roxie Johnson (Morelli’s niece) heart issues, upcoming surgery to replace small valve

Kim Morelli and Amy Rich (Morelli’s DnLs) both doing well with current cancer treatments, thank you for your 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.



TODAY'S LUTHERAN HOUR

July 26, 2026

"Worth the Wait"

Matthew 13:44

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

The certainty that Jesus offers is not theoretical or experimental. It's the certainty of a promise, of a secure relationship.

NEXT WEEK ON THE LUTHERAN HOUR

August 2, 2026

"Why Jesus Told Parables"

Mark 4

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

Archives August–Effective communicators tell stories to make a point. Hear how Jesus' parables point us to Himself.

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: *Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - Matthew 13:45–46*

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it." Indeed, Jesus redeemed us, purchased us back from sin and death, with all that He had. We belong to Him now. Our generosity ought to imitate the out-sized generosity of Jesus.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE:

"Even with all our sins, and even our rejection of Him, God is patiently loving us and calling us back to Him through the Holy Spirit. That's your story, friends. Go out in your God-given identity as a king or a queen and a priest. Don't go in fear and trembling, because when He calls you, He'll be with you!" *Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life – 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, **"Interlude."** A husband and wife struggle with marital issues. This week's episode is, **"Man in the Middle."** Two men are left with a "secret" when one tells he has terminal cancer. The worship service begins at 9:30 with Rev. Dennis Brech from Trinity Lutheran Church in Currie, MN, presenting a message titled, **"David's Lord and Son Exclusive"** based on **Matthew 13:44-52**. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities' tab.

Salo Summer Concert: The Backyard Band

The “Backyard Band” specializes in fun, danceable rock ‘n roll and country music drawing on decades of experience playing in rock bands, folk groups, jazz combos and bar ensembles. Catch their summer concert on **Thursday, July 30 from 7-8 pm**, at the Salo Park Amphitheater, 3890 Harding Street NE.

Community Screening for ‘Faces of Hope’

‘Faces of Hope,’ a documentary featuring real stories of resilience, courage and connection from individuals and families in Anoka County, will be shown **Thursday, July 30** at Fixx Coffee, 4028 Central Ave. NE. Limited refreshments will be available beginning at 6 pm. Additional food and beverages will be available for purchase. The film will screen at 6:30 pm and a panel of Anoka County residents featured in the documentary will share their stories and answer questions following the screening. Free naloxone, which is used to treat opioid overdoses, will also be available. Sponsored by Anoka County Opioid Solutions Initiative (ACOSI).

Food Truck Festival

Father Hennepin Bluff Park, 420 Main Street SE, will be the scene of the Minnesota Food Truck Festival **Saturday, August 1, 11 am-9 pm**. More than 40 food trucks will be on hand for this free event, where every free wristband provides three meals for those in need via Feed My Starving Children. Music will be provided by Whiskey Stone, Tyte Phitt and Alex Rossi. Kid and canine-friendly.

National Night Out, Tuesday, August 4

Mark your calendar and plan to join our McKinley neighbors between 30th and 31st Streets for National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 4 from 6 – 8 pm**. Stop by for this annual community-building event that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. There will be scheduled visits from emergency personnel, including the Minneapolis Police K-9 Unit and a fire truck.

Youth Care International Fund

Gloria Dei has a fund set up for **Youth Care International** to support Royal Family’s children’s mission in Liberia. Donations help build schools, provide meals and supplies, run Bible camps, and back Pastor Matthew’s spring mission trip. To donate, mark your envelope with “*Youth Care International*”.

“I can’t change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.”

-Jimmy Dean