

## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis

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Matthew Cephus

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Pianist

Marty McGinn

Ministers: All members of Gloria Dei

**Caring Sharing Serving  
Reaching**



2 0 2 4

## AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 4 – 11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 11 – 12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 18 – 13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 25 – 14th Sunday after Pentecost (Guest Pastor)

Pastor Matthew will be on a Mission trip in Uganda, East Africa from  
August 19 – 27. Safe Travels!

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August is a month that holds significant biblical meaning. In the Bible, the number eight symbolizes **new beginnings**, and **August serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in ushering us into a season of fresh starts and blessings.** It is a time to reflect on the abundant grace and mercy bestowed upon us by our Heavenly Father.

Just as summer transitions into fall during this month, we too can experience a shift in our spiritual journey. August invites us to let go of past struggles and embrace a renewed sense of purpose and direction. It is an opportunity to realign ourselves with **God's plans and seek His guidance for the future.**

In the book of Jeremiah, we are reminded of God's promise: *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* **Jeremiah 29:11**

This verse reassures us that even in times of uncertainty, God has a perfect plan for our lives.

# A Message from Pastor Matthew Cephus

## The Good Samaritan—The Good Steward

In life, we think of owning many different things: our money, our car, our home, etc. As we find out through experience, though, these things can actually come to own us – **but that's another story for another day.** When we look at what God's Word has to say, we find that it takes us in a different direction than what we may have first thought about owning things. We read this: **"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it"** (Psalm 24:1). The deeper truth here is that we really own nothing. We merely manage what belongs to our Creator God who has entrusted the precious gift of life into our hands for a time. The question becomes how we will manage this gift.

In the Bible, one of Jesus' well-known parables is that of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=luke+10%3A25-37&version=ESV>). Take a moment and read through this passage of Scripture. Of the four Gospel writers, Luke alone records this parable of the man going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, who was attacked by robbers who took everything he had and left him for dead by the side of the road. The telling of this parable was occasioned by a lawyer who asked Jesus two very telling questions: 1) **"What shall I do to inherit eternal life?"** and 2) **"And who is my neighbor?"** Those two questions are connected, as we shall see. We can look at the parable, and come to an understanding of ownership of things, from three different perspectives: 1) the robbers; 2) the priest and Levite; and 3) the Good Samaritan.

First, the robbers, who in robbing and beating the man, embody an understanding of ownership that is, **"What's yours is mine and I'll take it."** We see this often in life. People, who by force or contrived legal means, take from others what is not theirs to take. It goes by many names: robbery, theft, larceny, etc. People may have worked hard to have these things, and they can be taken away in a moment. Of course, things can be replaced; people cannot. Respecting others and what is theirs is what the Seventh Commandment tells us: **"You shall not steal."**

Second, the priest and Levite who did not render aid to the injured man lying by the side of the road, but passed by on the other side, embody an understanding of ownership that is, **"What's mine is mine, and I'll keep it."** Their fear and suspicion held them back from giving help when and where it was needed. We can hold the things of this world too closely and miss the greater good that might be done through them for the sake of others who are around us.

Third, the Good Samaritan who stopped and help the injured man, who took him to an inn and cared for him, embodies an understanding of ownership that is, **"What's mine is yours, and I'll share it."** The Good Samaritan, we are told, **"had compassion,"** and went to considerable trouble and expense to give assistance. He interrupted what he was doing and where he was going. He paid for the innkeeper's services out of his own pocket. In other words, this cost him time, money, and personal involvement. The Good Samaritan points us to what God has done for us: rescuing us when we were dead in our sins and trespasses (Colossians 2:13); binding up our wounds not with oil and wine, but with the precious blood of Jesus; and in sending Jesus to be the One who rescued and redeemed us, had great compassion upon us all.

The attorney who asked Jesus those questions was then called by Jesus to go and do as the Good Samaritan had done. Jesus calls us to do the same; to see our neighbor as anyone who needs our help. As we think about what it means to have ownership of things in life, that understanding of **"What's mine is yours, and I'll share it,"** is what God would have us do. This is what will prove to be a blessing to others. May our use of the many things that our Creator God has placed into our hands be used not just for our own benefit and pleasure, but to render help to our neighbor, who is Christ in our midst.

# The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

## LCMS Stewardship Ministry - August 2024

### *Mercy and Grace Lead to Generosity*

Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift" (2 Cor. 9:15)! This is St. Paul's exclamation upon hearing the Corinthian church's response to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his request for support for the church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and received God's mercy in Christ, and they responded to St. Paul's call to support Christians in Jerusalem with a collection. The Corinthians' joy filled Jerusalem's need.

This is the reality of stewardship. Because of God's generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? **Everything. All that we are and all that we have is the Lord's.** He is the creator and the giver. We are His creatures and those who receive what He gives.

It sounds easy. And it is. But **then again it isn't. Stewardship is easy because it is God's work.** Through what God gives, we give to others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the church for the life of the world. He gives; we receive. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as His children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others.

But stewardship is also difficult. That is because it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine to do what I want with. This is our sinful nature. It is our selfishness and our greed. How can we who have been given everything — life, food, clothing, house, home, forgiveness, divine sonship, an eternal inheritance — be so stingy with what we give to the church, the place where we hear about and receive all that God gives us and does for us? We are all guilty of this kind of thinking. And the only godly response is to repent and trust in the Gospel.

For if God has given you His own Son, will He not give you all things? Yes. He will. This is His sure and certain promise. God provides for His people. He provides everything we need for this body and life and for the life that is to come.

**The church is a mercy place. It's a place where God's mercy in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, is given and received.** For us who believe it means forgiveness, life and salvation in the face of sin, death and the power of the devil. **Here in the church, we inhale God's mercy in Word and Sacrament, and exhale this same mercy in love and service to our neighbor. And that is an enduring, joyful thing to do. Our joy fills our neighbor's need because His joy filled ours (Heb. 12:2).** Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!





## Simply Giving Program

*Endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union*

The *Simply Giving*® Program is an automated stewardship program that helps members live generously. It's a convenient, safe and simple way for individuals to make automatic payments to nonprofit organizations through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from checking or savings accounts. Thrivent Federal Credit Union has contracted with industry leader Vanco Payment Solutions to provide electronic payment processing services at reduced rates – so your generosity goes further. To get started, call Vanco Payment Solutions at 800-675-7430.

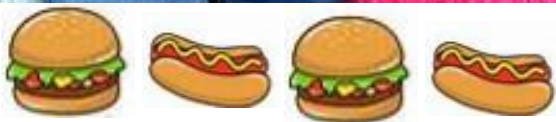
### **Gloria Dei is Always in Need of Altar Care and Ushers for the Summer Months!**

The summer months are always very busy for everyone, but if your schedule permits, please consider signing up for a Sunday of Altar Care or to Usher. **You don't have to take the entire month**, just the Sunday(s) that work for you. Sign-up sheets are located on the bulletin boards in the front lobby as you walk in. If you are interested, but need a refresher on what the duties include, please contact the church office and arrangements can be made for training. Thank You!





July 27 "Taking it to the Streets" BBQ & Community Event













## Taking It to the Streets Community Outreach Event

Thank you to everyone who came out and made the Third Annual **"Taking it to the Streets"** BBQ and Picnic on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> a big success! **The unusually hot weather didn't keep people away.** New friends were made, and everyone had a great time. Thank you to Chef Ken, who did an amazing job on the grill. A special thank you to ALL the volunteers who helped with the set-up, serving the food, and the clean-up – this was a BIG job! The event featured gospel music by several local artists, family-fun games and of course, the bouncy house. Which was the highlight of the event for the kids. However, the water balloons were a very close second. The FREE event was the perfect summer get-together making it a great opportunity to connect with people in the neighborhood and our surrounding community to share God's love and generosity. *Building relationships and making disciples.*



### Do you have handyman skills you can share with the church?

Gloria Dei is looking for anyone interested in doing some light maintenance work around the church. Examples of the jobs needing immediate attention are painting (outdoors), yard work (including weeding, picking up sticks & twigs – ongoing) and general maintenance. If you are or know someone who would be interested in helping, please contact the church office at 612.781.1989. Also, if you have a special skill set and you are willing to lend a hand on projects as they come up, let us know that too. Thank You!

### Red Cross Blood Drive

**There's a critical need for blood donors.** Sign up at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=SAV>. There are still many appointment slots available for Friday, August 2 at St. Anthony Community Center, 3301 Silver Lake Road, 9 am-3 pm.

Did you know?

- 90% of the Red Cross workforce are volunteers
- More than 25,000 volunteers support Red Cross Blood Services
- More than 15,000 nurses and nursing students volunteer
- 25% of the volunteers are aged 24 or younger

### Free Community Dinner at Faith UMC

Faith United Methodist Church, 2708 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, will hold a free community dinner Thursday, August 8, from 5-6 pm. Everyone is welcome.

### SACA's free produce distributions

Southern Anoka Community Assistance will distribute free produce in partnership with Second Harvest Heartland on the second and fourth Saturday of the month, July – September, 8:30-11 am (or while supplies last). Distribution takes place in the SACA parking lot at 627 38th Ave NE. SACA Food Shelf distributes up to 10,000 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables at each event. These events are completely free and open to the public. No need to sign up. Distribution will take place Aug. 10 and 24, Sept. 14 and Sept. 28. **Attendees remain in their cars and drive up to SACA's parking lot to pick up their boxes of produce.**



## FREE Community Dinner at St. Timothy's

August 13 @ 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Join St. Timothy's and the local community on Tuesday, August 13, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm (or until the food is gone) for their drive thru community dinner. All are welcome so spread the word! St. Timothy's Lutheran Church is located at 825 51st Avenue NE, Columbia Heights.

## National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6

Did you know that millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states each year?

Join members of Gloria Dei and Royal Family for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6 from 5:30 – 8 pm? **Stop by the church's front lawn for this annual community-building event** that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. There will be a bouncy house, free BBQ, scheduled visits from emergency personnel, including a K-9 Unit, a fire truck and mounted police – yes police on horseback! This year we will be joined by our McKinley neighbors between 30th and 31st.

Help to make our neighborhoods a safer and more caring place to live. The best way to build a safer community is to know your neighbors and your surroundings.

## IC "Fun Fest"

IC "Fun Fest" at Immaculate Conception Church and School, Columbia Heights – 4030 Jackson Street NE, August 18 – One Day Only! Free admission, featuring bingo, kid's games and face painting, bottlemania, bake shoppe, jewelry booth, raffle and parish outreach. Volleyball and Cornhole tournaments (1 – 4 pm) \$20 entry fee, \$100 cash prize for winning team!!

## Lutheran Night 2024!



Target Field Monday, August 12th Minnesota Twins vs. Kansas City Royals 6:40 PM. The Minnesota Twins are excited to announce their annual Lutheran Night at Target Field. Great for Lutheran congregations, youth groups and chapters, Lutheran Night at Target Field has been one of the largest group events associated with the Twins for over a decade! Groups will receive:

- Affordable, group discounted tickets seated together.
- Group welcome message on the scoreboard in the top of the 4th inning.
- Members of the group may participate in the Lutheran Night National Anthem choir!

- Lower Level Group Seating Field Box Mid- \$39 (Third base line seats)
- Overlook - \$42 (Right Field overhang seats)
- Left Field Bleachers - \$36 (Left Field outfield wall seats)
- Club Level Seating Legends Landing - \$48 (Club level seating along third base line, all you can eat ballpark fare)
- Upper Level Seating Home Run Porch View - \$19 (Left Field outfield seats) Other Fun Perks!!:
- Family Value Concession Stands: Sections 120, 133, 311 Reserving tickets for your group is easy!

For more information about seating options and to place a reservation, please contact Ryan Thomson at: 612-659-3582 or [ryanthomson@twins.com](mailto:ryanthomson@twins.com)

# THE LUTHERAN HOUR

**WCCO 830 AM Radio**

**Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 am**

*Hosted by Rev. Michael Zeigler (unless otherwise noted)*

August 4 (1 Corinthians 15:17-19)

"Jesus' Resurrection: God's Public Guarantee"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Archives August: A crucified Savior, a resurrected, living Lord: the public guarantee of God, at work in the world for you.

August 11 (Philippians 4:4-13)

"God's Peacemakers for a Troubled World"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz

Archives August: Don't let anger, disagreement, and stress damage your relationships. Hear how God changes troublemakers into peacemakers.

August 18 "The Child Glad to Be Born" (Luke 2)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Archives August: The Child Who wanted to be born can make you glad to be alive! That joy for living comes when you hear His story.

August 25 "When the Monsters Come" (Job 40:15-41:34)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

Archives August: We can never be too vigilant against the devil's attacks but in Christ we can always be confident that the victory is ours.



## Daily Devotions from The Lutheran Hour Ministries

With several ways to read and listen, you can get your daily dose of Scripture when you need it. Visit **[lhm.org/dailydevotions](http://lhm.org/dailydevotions)** to subscribe for email delivery to your inbox, sign up for the podcasts, or download the app for your mobile device – all for **FREE!**

**REMEMBER TO BRING IN YOUR CANS!**

**We are always collecting cans with the proceeds going to the Mission of the Church Council's choosing.**



*thank you*



## JULY OFFICIAL ACTS

None

## Time of Grace

Time of Grace connects people to God's grace—his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever.

**Pastor Mike Novotny**

Pastor Mike Novotny serves as the lead speaker for Time of Grace, where he shares the good news about Jesus through television, print, and online platforms.

**Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 AM**

Subscribe to Time of Grace to be delivered to your email inbox daily. It's easy to subscribe to resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just select which types of resources you would like to receive and they will be sent right to your inbox **[www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe](http://www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe)**

## Main Street Living


Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am and is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, and can be viewed on channel 29/9-2, (On Comcast this is channel 10)

The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*, a Lutheran Hour Ministries program made popular in the 60s, 70s, and 80s. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally.

For more information or to watch the programs, visit **[www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com)** and select the "Twin Cities" tab.



# AUGUST 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418 612-781-1989 website: www.gloriadeilcms.org email: info@gloriadeilcms.org				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Rita Jean Bergstrom: 10:30 am Visitation 11 am Celebration of Life Service  5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<b>4</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA	<b>5</b> Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 5 – 7 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<b>11</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA	<b>12</b> Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4 – 5 pm Living Word Board Meeting 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<b>18</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA  <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	<b>19</b> Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	<b>20</b> 5 – 7 pm GDLC Council meeting	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<div>Pastor Matthew Uganda Mission Trip (August 19 – Aug 27)</div>						
<b>25</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10 am Worship Service w/HC and Guest Pastor 11:45 am Royal Family Worship  6 pm NA	<b>26</b> Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AIAnon (upstairs) 7 pm Beginners AIAnon (downstairs)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5 – 8 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 10 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 6 – 8 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<div>Pastor Matthew Uganda Mission Trip (August 19 – Aug 27)</div>						

# Special Occasions for Special People



**1<sup>st</sup>**      **Carin Anderson**  
**1<sup>st</sup>**      **Roselyn Norman**  
**6<sup>th</sup>**      **James Sather**  
**26<sup>th</sup>**     **James Norman, Jr.**

**22<sup>nd</sup>**      **Tim & Norma Harris**

<b>AUGUST SERVANTS</b>	
<b>Elder: Karmon Christopherson</b>	
<b>Altar Care</b>	
<p> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>      Morelli's  <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>     Open  <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>     Julie Cross  <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>     Open </p>	
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Counters</b>
<p> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>      Morelli's  <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>     Open  <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>     Julie Cross  <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>     Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer </p>	<p> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>      Pat Scott and Shirley Slagle  <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>     Shirley Holzinger and Verlayne Sather  <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>     Sandy Westling and Tom Harris  <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>     Dale Raschke and Wade Billmeyer </p>
<b>Eternal Light</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
<p> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>      Open  <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>     Open  <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>     Open  <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>     Shirley Holzinger – In memory of Dad,  Alvin's birthday, August 27<sup>th</sup> </p>	<p> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>      Open  <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>     Open  <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>     Open  <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>     Open </p>

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,  
 WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE  
 IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY  
 SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
 - PRINCESS DIANA





AUGUST

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

# Pray For Us Calendar

## CHURCH WORKERS — AUGUST 1-15

Pastors; deaconesses; Lutheran school teachers; directors of Christian education, Christian outreach and family life ministry; parish musicians. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) is blessed with many faithful church workers who assist and lead people in participating in the fulfillment of the Great Commission, while building up the Body of Christ.

*Remember God's work through the Synod's church workers as you pray:*

**1.** *with thanksgiving for the many dedicated church workers in the LCMS, who share in our joys and sorrows. Ask the Lord to comfort and defend them from every assault of the devil.*

**2.** *for the Synod's pastors, that they would hold fast to the Word of God and find strength to continue preaching God's truth in an increasingly anti-Christian culture.*

**3.** *for the Synod's deaconesses. Pray that they would be equipped with all things needful to love and serve people in every situation.*

**4.** *that God would bless the work of directors of Christian education, as they develop educational ministries for children, youth, adults and families.*

**5.** *for the Synod's directors of Christian outreach, that God would guide their efforts to support a congregation's or organization's outreach and evangelism work.*

**6.** *for directors of family life ministry. Ask that God would guide their vital work to strengthen the families in our congregations.*

**7.** *for teachers and administrators in Lutheran schools, that they would model Christ-like behavior*

for students and incorporate the Gospel message into each and every day.

**8.** *for directors of parish music, that they would find joy and satisfaction in their work of enhancing the worship life of the church.*

**9.** *for the Synod's commissioned lay ministers, who work under a pastor's guidance to support a church's efforts in evangelism, Christian education, parish administration and other areas that are God-pleasing.*

**10.** *for missionaries, who leave home and family to work in faraway lands. Ask God to give them strength, wisdom and protection as they do His work.*

**11.** *for those involved in Specialized Pastoral Ministry, who serve the ill, imprisoned, aging, troubled and isolated. Give thanks for their service to people in the midst of tragedy or crisis.*

**12.** *for military chaplains, who put themselves in harm's way to minister to members of our armed forces. Ask God to keep them safe as they share Christ's love with our servicemen and women.*

**13.** *for the health and well-being of all church workers, that they would utilize opportunities for rest and renewal.*

**14.** *with thanksgiving for every person who volunteers in a congregation as an elder, an usher, a Sunday school teacher or in another capacity. Praise God that He calls His people to support full-time church workers in a variety of ways.*

**15.** *with thankful hearts for the blessings God gives to His people through full-time church workers. These faithful men and women care for us, pray for us and teach us the Word of God.*

## THE CHURCH — AUGUST 16-31

“The Church is the congregation of saints [Psalm 149:1] in which the Gospel is purely taught and the Sacraments are correctly administered. For the true unity of the Church it is enough to agree about the doctrine of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments” (Augsburg Confession VII).

*Remember God’s work through the Church as you pray:*

**16.** *with thanksgiving to God for raising up voices in every age and generation as He continues to call people to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

**17.** *that God would raise up in our own time faithful pastors and church workers who will preach Jesus Christ crucified and risen, for the edification of His people and for the sake of those not yet of the faith.*

**18.** *with thanksgiving that God does His bidding through unworthy and unlikely people. Pray that He would keep us from thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought and keep us focused on the proclamation of the Gospel.*

**19.** *that God would give us faith so that we may not fear in times of trouble nor fall away in times of prosperity.*

**20.** *for the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above to be given to us, so that*

God’s Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edification of Christ’s holy people.

**21.** *that the Church would work together in God-pleasing unity and that their joint efforts would further God’s kingdom.*

**22.** *for Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and other institutions that prepare servants for the Church, that they would properly prepare men and women to serve God and His Church.*

**23.** *with thanksgiving for every person and organization that supports the work of the Church. The prayers and financial support of God’s people enable the Gospel to be shared at home and around the world.*

**24.** *for young people, that the Lord would lead them to serve Him and bless His people.*

**25.** *for us, that when we are tempted to focus on the things*



of the world or on ourselves, God would direct our attention to His Word and will.

**26.** *with thanksgiving that God continues to strengthen us through His Word and Sacraments.*

**27.** *with thankful hearts to God for sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross and rise again so that we might have the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life.*

**28.** *that we would joyfully study the Sacred Scriptures as a light to our path and gratefully make*



*use of the Lutheran Confessions to help us understand and apply the Scriptures.*

**29.** *with thanksgiving for shepherds in the Church’s history and pastors today, whom God uses to guide His flock.*

**30.** *that God would keep all Christians from being led astray by false teachings, and instead bring them to a deeper knowledge of Him.*

**31.** *that we all would be given a trust in the saving Gospel and a great passion to spread its joy with others in our lives.*



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 THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI SYNOD