# The First Sunday in Lent February 18, 2024



# **Welcome to Gloria Dei!**

The name *Gloria Dei* is a Latin phrase meaning *God's glory*. We pray that here you will find his glory and love chiefly revealed in our Savior Jesus. May your time in worship be edifying and enable you to focus on Jesus as the solution to your sin and as the certainty of eternal life in heaven.

Should you need a **restroom** during the service, you will find them in the Fellowship Hall directly beneath the sanctuary. Exit the sanctuary by the main doors, turn right and head down the stairs, turn right at the bottom of the stairs and enter the first door.

If you need anything during the service, please speak to one of the ushers.

# To Those Visiting with Children

The members of Gloria Dei believe that families should be able to worship together. It is clear that some amount of noise will come with children being in worship. Any noise children make in worship is the sound of families doing what God has told them to do: bringing their children to sit at Jesus' feet. Should your family need a few moments away from the sanctuary, the Fellowship Hall located directly beneath the sanctuary is open and equipped with a closed circuit TV of the service.

#### **Our Communion Practice**

If you are a visitor with us today, we are glad that you're here! We are celebrating the Lord's Supper in worship today. If you would like to receive the Lord's Supper today, we ask that you speak with Pastor Shrimpton or one of the ushers before doing so.

God requires that we only commune with those with whom we share complete agreement in God's Word (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) and makes us responsible for ensuring that those whom commune know exactly what God teaches lest people commune to their spiritual harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). Because of this, we ask that any visitors who are not a member of one of our sister congregations give us the opportunity to compare what we teach with your faith to ensure that we are in complete agreement before you commune with us. Please speak with Pastor Shrimpton after worship for more information.

#### The Theme of Today's Worship

"If God loves us, why doesn't he remove all the trials and tests and temptations that we face?" That question demonstrates the religious assumption that those things are bad. They aren't. In the hands of a loving God, they are tools by which he refines our faith. He uses tests as a way to compel us to be less self-reliant, and instead trust in his strength. He uses trials to teach us that this broken world is not our true home. God even takes Satan's temptations and uses them for our good.

Trials, tests, and temptations are not exceptions to God's love. That's a false assumption! These are examples of God's love. Proof is that God allowed his beloved Son Jesus to face trials and temptations, so that he might be our perfect savior and substitute.

# **Serving Today**

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Timothy Shrimpton
Accompanist	Kathy Lee
Ushers	Steve Powers and Daniel Donovan
Communion Assistant	Jasen Higgins
Altar Preparation	
Sunday School Teacher	
Coffee Hour Host	Jen Ratto

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# The Service

Setting One

# **Opening Hymn**

823 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



- 1 Je sus, price-less trea sure, fount of pur est plea sure,
- 2 In thine arms I rest me; foes who would op-press me
- 3 Sa tan, I de fy thee; death, I now de cry thee;
- 4 Hence, all earth-ly trea sure! Je sus is my plea sure,
- 5 Hence, all fear and sad ness! For the Lord of glad ness,



tru - est friend to me.
can - not reach me here.
fear, I bid thee cease.
Je - sus is my choice.
Je - sus, en - ters in.

Ah, how long in an - guish Though the earth be shak - ing, World, thou shalt not harm me Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry! Those who love the Fa - ther,



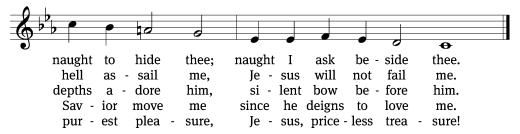
shall my spir - it lan - guish,
ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing,
nor thy threats a - larm me
Naught to me thy sto - ry
though the storms may gath - er,

yearn - ing, Lord, for thee?
Je - sus calms my fear.
while I sing of peace.
told with tempt - ing voice.
still have peace with - in.



Thou art mine. 0 Lamb di - vine! Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash; God's great pow'r guards ev -'ry hour; Pain or loss or shame or cross Yea, what - e'er Ι here must bear.

I will suf - fer yet, though sin and earth and all its shall not from my thou art still my



Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 4–5): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 3): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 | Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

#### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

#### Confession\*

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

<sup>\*</sup>We are born into this world with a deep need for confession. We come as sinners before the holy God who demands perfection from us. We come asking for his forgiveness, trusting in his promises to forgive us for the sake of Jesus' life and death in our place.

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

#### **Absolution**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning\* sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.†

Amen.

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

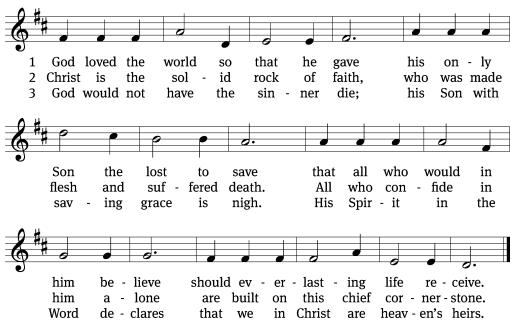
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

<sup>\*</sup> To "atone" is to put to separated parties back "at one" with each other. By his death, Jesus covered over our sin and put sinful mankind back at one with our Creator. See **1 John 2:2**.

<sup>† [</sup>Jesus said,] "Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.... Amen I tell you: Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (John 20:23, Matthew 18:18).

# **Song of Response**

570 God Loved the World So That He Gave, sts. 1–3\*



Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens- Opffer, Stettin, c. 1778 | Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893 | Text and tune: Public domain

# The Word

#### **Salutation**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

<sup>\*</sup> During the solemn season of Lent, the church has historically set aside its most joyous songs and words of praise Thus during these Sundays, the traditional *Gloria in Excelsis* is replaced by a more solemn reminder of God's love and forgiveness.

# **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Be seated

First Reading Genesis 22:1–18

God gives Abraham a test which will demonstrate who Abraham loves and trusts most.

ome time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I am here."

<sup>2</sup>God said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you."

<sup>3</sup>Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

<sup>5</sup>Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you." <sup>6</sup>Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together.

<sup>7</sup>Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?"

He said, "I am here, my son."

He said, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

<sup>8</sup>Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them went on together. <sup>9</sup>They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

<sup>11</sup>The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!"

Abraham said, "I am here."

<sup>12</sup>He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

<sup>13</sup>Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>Abraham called the name of that place "The LORD Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

<sup>15</sup>The Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, "I have sworn by myself, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your descendants greatly, like the stars of the sky and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the city gates of their enemies. <sup>18</sup>In your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.





Text: para. William Miller; Jaroslav Vajda, alt. | Tune: Swedish | Text: © 1991 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 706345 | Tune: Public domain

# **Second Reading**

Romans 8:31-39

The proof of God's love is not that he removes all our trouble. The proof of God's love is that he gave us his Son. If he did that, nothing can separate us from God's love.

hat then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

<sup>33</sup>Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies! <sup>34</sup>Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God's right hand and who is also interceding for us! <sup>35</sup>What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>Just as it is written:

For your sake we are being put to death all day long. We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

<sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Please stand\*

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Hebrews 4:15



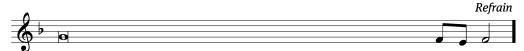
#### Refrain







We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weak - ness - es;



we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 706345

<sup>\*</sup> We stand out of respect for the words and account of the life of our Savior and King, Jesus.

Gospel Mark 1:12–15

Sometimes we fail to stand firm in trial or temptation. But by grace the kingdom of God is still ours because Jesus, as our substitute, perfectly overcame all of Satan's temptations.

he Spirit immediately sent Jesus out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels were serving him.

<sup>14</sup>After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. <sup>15</sup>"The time is fulfilled," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel."

The Gospel of the Lord.

#### Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

## Children's Message

The children are invited forward to sit in the first pew on the left-hand side of the sanctuary. Parents may join them for this special message.



863 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God





Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483-1546 | Tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546 | Text and tune: Public domain

#### Sermon

#### Who Can Be Against Us?

Romans 8:31-39

#### Nicene Creed\*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>\*</sup> The Nicene Creed was originally adopted by the Council of Nicea in 325 AD and has been a widely used confession of faith throughout Christendom since that time. Its chief purpose was to confess the Christian faith while defending the truth of Jesus' divinity against the teachings of Arianism which claim that Jesus is not true God.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

# **Prayer of the Church**

Gracious Father, after his baptism your Son faced the stern attacks of Satan who tried to derail his journey to the cross. On this day we rejoice in Jesus' victory in the wilderness and praise him for his ultimate triumph over the works of the devil.

Send us your Spirit that we may believe this truth and apply it in our lives.

Satan and his followers seek to overturn our faith and love every day. Their goal is to separate us from your presence and destroy our relationship with your Son. Give us wisdom to be alert for their attacks and recognize the danger they bring.

Protect us as we endure temptation. Keep us from becoming Satan's victims. Forgive us and restore us when we give in to him.

Make our faith stronger than it is now so that we might know more and more that Jesus matters most to us in life and death. Give us wisdom and power to follow him and do his will.

Keep us from thinking that sins are harmless and cannot lead us away from him.

According to your will, Lord, curb the influence of Satan in our world and society. Help people to grasp the appalling effects of his power and to refrain from doing wicked and harmful deeds.

Come to the aid of those who are the objects of devilish power.

Give us courage to warn those we love about the dangers of the devil's temptations. Lead us to speak the truth in love so that family members and friends may discern evil and step back from error and sin.

Move us to share the horror of Satan's power honestly and to offer your forgiveness in love.

Keep in your care all who are struggling with pain, battling with sickness, and facing death. [Especially bless... here name the person and the cause of the petition.] Spare your people from Satan's temptations in their difficult hours and strengthen them with the promise of your Son's ultimate victory over sin, death, and the grave.

Help us to support them when we can and to keep them in our prayers.

Protect us, gracious God, from the power of Satan, the allure of the world, and the seduction of our sinful nature.

Cause us to believe that we are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Offering

The members of Gloria Dei give their offerings out of thanks to God for his unending love. These offerings are used to support our work locally and around the world. Our guests may give, but should not feel compelled to do so. If you wish to give a gift electronically, please visit <a href="www.gdluth.org/giving">www.gdluth.org/giving</a> or scan the code to the right.



If you are a guest with us today, please fill out the "Connection Card" in the racks at the end of each pew and leave the card with an usher, in the offering plate, or with the pastor.

As the offering plates are brought forward, please stand for prayer.

# **The Sacrament**

#### Preface\*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

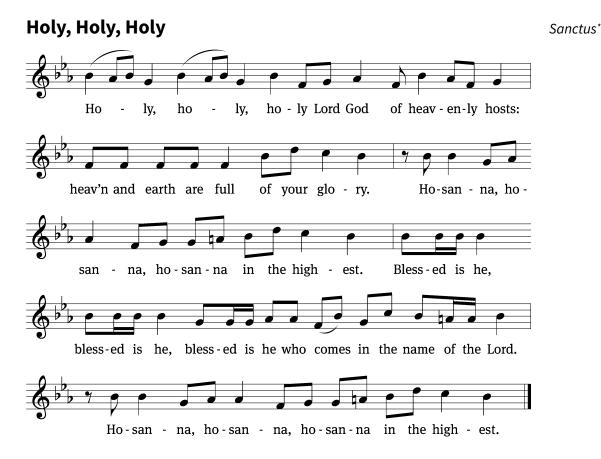
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

<sup>\*</sup>The words of the Preface are the least changed liturgical text of the Christian church, dating back to at least 200 AD. They are spoken as joyous words that anticipate the forthcoming reception of the Lord's Supper.

#### It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



<sup>\*</sup> We join the saints in the triumph song of the holy God who has rescued us. We sing, "Hosanna!" which means,

<sup>&</sup>quot;Please save us!" The traditional name for this song, Sanctus, is the Latin word for Holy.

# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

# **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

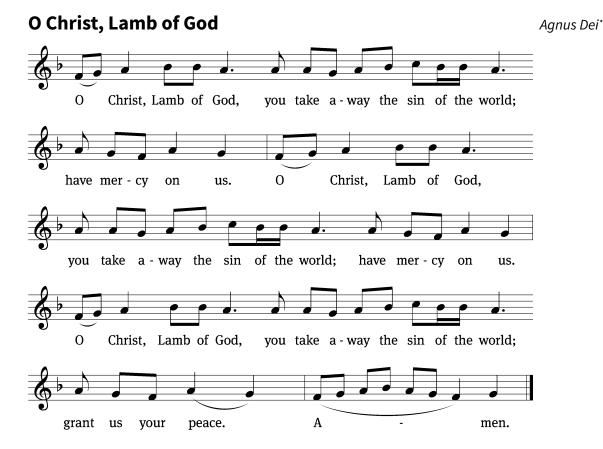
#### **Words of Institution\***

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

<sup>\*</sup> This is no symbolic meal nor were Jesus' directions a parable. As his last will and testament, Jesus' direction on the Lord's Supper is clear: in a miraculous way, his true body and true blood are present with the bread and wine in the Sacrament. Through it we receive the forgiveness of our sins won for us by his death on the cross.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** 



Be seated

# **Distribution of the Lord's Supper**

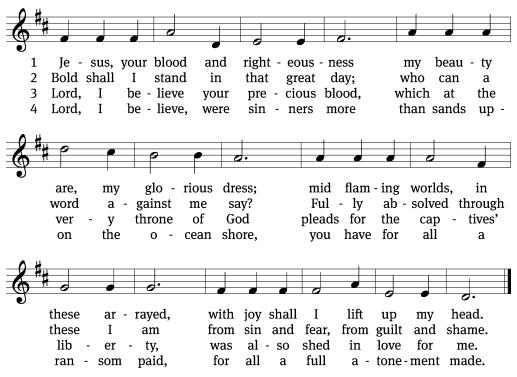
**To our guests:** please review "Our Communion Practice" on p. 2 of this worship folder before communing with us. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor after the service.

Those communing with us today should follow the ushers' direction to come forward via the center aisle and return to their seats by the side aisles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>\*</sup> John the Baptist called Jesus the **"Lamb of God" (John 1:29)**, the long-promised, perfect sacrifice for sin. The traditional name of this song, *Agnus Dei*, is the Latin phrase *Lamb of God*.

# **Thanksgiving**

573 Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness, s. 1-4



Text: tr. John B. Wesley, 1703-1791, alt.; Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760, abr.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

Text and tune: Public domain

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.\*

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

<sup>\*</sup> These words of praise occur repeatedly in Scripture. For an example, see **Psalm 118:1**.

<sup>† 1</sup> Corinthians 11:26

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

# Blessing\*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.



<sup>\*</sup> The closing blessing of the service follows the pattern of the blessing that God gave to his Old Testament people in **Numbers 6:22-27**.



- 1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
- 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un der take
- 3 Be still, my soul; when dear-est friends de part
- 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has-t'ning on

bear pa-tientto guide the and all is when we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; fu - ture as he has the past; dark-ened in the vale of tears, be for - ev - er with the Lord. leave to your God to or - der your hope, your con - fi - dence, let then you will bet - ter know his when dis - ap - point-ment, grief, and



and pro-vide; noth-ing shake; love, his heart, fear are gone, in ev - 'ry change he faith-ful will reall now mys - te - rious shall be bright at who comes to soothe your sor-rows and your sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re-



main.
last.
fears.
stored.

Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



joy through thorn - v wavs leads to a ful end. his voice who ruled them while he lived be - low. his own full a - way. from all he takes ness we shall meet all safe and bless ed at last.

Text: tr. Jane L Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.; Catharina A. von Schlegel, 1697–1752, abr.

Tune: Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

# **Calendar & Announcements**

Sun	day
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No Catechism Class or Choir Rehersal	
Congregational Voters' Meeting12:00	) pm
Coffee Hour	) am
Worship	) am
Sunday School [Grades PreK-5th] and Bible Class [Life of Abraham]9:15	ām

# **Tuesday**

In-Person Midweek Bible Class [Luke]	10:30 am
Bible Information Class	4:30 pm
Online Midweek Bible Class [Luke]	7:30 pm

# Wednesday

# **Thursday**

Senior Care Center Worship Service [The Abigail, Redwood City]	10:00 am
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Sunday School [Grades Drok 5th] and Rible Class [Life of Abraham]

# **Next Sunday**

Sullday School [Glades Fier-Still and bible class [Life of Abraham]		
Worship	10:30 am	
Coffee Hour	11:30 am	
Choir Practice	12:00 pm	
Catechism Class	12:00 pm	

#### **Congregational Voters' Meeting**

February 18, 12pm

0.15 am

Our next congregational voters' meeting will be held on Sunday, February 18 at 12pm (or as close to that after worship as we can). All members of Gloria Dei are encouraged to attend to get an update on our ministry plans and share any thoguhts or ideas you might have for the future work we embark on together. If you have any items that you would like to have brought up for that meeting, please let Pastor Shrimpton or Steve Hansen know.

If you cannot attend in person but would be able to connect online via Zoom, please let Pastor Shrimpton know before the 18th so that we can make arrangements to have the necessary equipment setup and running for the meeting.

#### **Every Member Visits**

As we start a new year, Pastor Shrimpton would like to begin a new round of visits with every member. These visits can take place in your home, at church, at a coffee shop, or online—whatever would be easiest and best for you and your family. You should have received an email early in the week with a link to schedule these visits, but you can also scan the code at the right to do so from your mobile device. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor.





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Gloria Dei is a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). www.wels.net

