

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023



Gloria Dei
Lutheran Church
1963 — 2023

gdluth.org

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

Some churches teach that if one follows God, God responds by granting prosperity and peace. Today Jesus teaches that is nonsense. The Son of God tells us that if we are his disciple, if we are part of his Church, we will have to bear crosses. Believers will suffer in this world, oftentimes for no other reason than they are believers. It is painful to struggle against the temptations and priorities of this world. It can be agonizing to face the same scorn and ridicule Jesus faced.

Why bother? We carry our crosses in gratitude for Jesus carrying his cross, one too heavy for us to bear because it was weighted down with our sin. We carry our crosses because we know that in those moments of struggle, we are forced to turn to Christ and rely on his strength. The church takes up its crosses, because this is the Christian path, the one Jesus himself walked: first the cross, then the crown.

Serving Today

Presiding Minister & Preacher	Pastor Timothy Shrimpton
Organ Assistant	Oliver Shrimpton
Ushers	Mark Baushke and Rick Hutington
Communion Assistant	Mark Baushke
Altar Preparation	Janet Powers
Coffee Hour Host	Karen Shrimpton

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The Service

Setting Four

Opening Hymn

621 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him



trib - ute bring. Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same as ev - er,
frame he knows. In his hand he gent - ly bears us,
face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him;



ev - er - more his prais - es sing; Al - le - lu - ia,
slow to chide, and swift to bless, Al - le - lu - ia,
res - cues us from all our foes; Al - le - lu - ia,
all who dwell in time and space, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
al - le - lu - ia! glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
al - le - lu - ia! wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows!
al - le - lu - ia! praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Tune: John Goss, 1800–1880

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

with his innocent suffering and death.

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

Silence for meditation and reflection

* 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.

† **1 John 1:8-9**

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.

Amen.

* 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**.

† [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).**

Glory to God in the Highest

*Gloria in Excelsis**



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

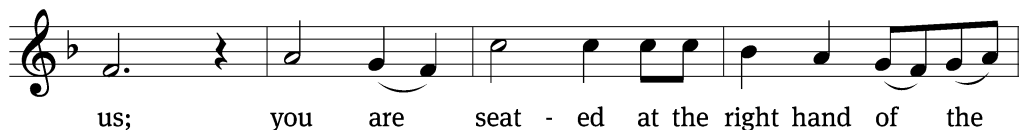


Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on

* This song borrows the words of the angels as they proclaimed the birth of the Savior to the shepherds (**Luke 2:14**). This song's traditional name, *Gloria in Excelsis*, is a Latin phrase meaning *glory in the highest*.



us; you are seated at the right hand of the



Fa-ther: receive our prayer, receive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est and peace to his peo-ple on



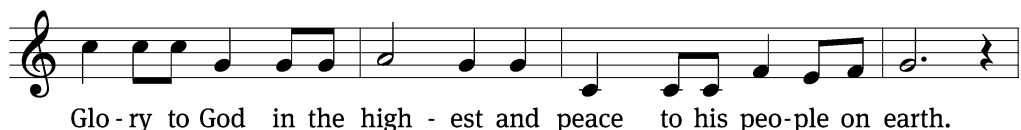
earth. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the



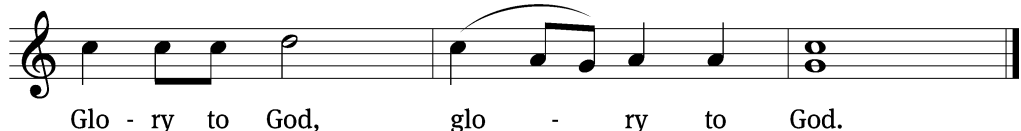
Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the



Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; 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

Jeremiah 15:15-21

O LORD, you understand.
Remember me and care for me.
Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.
You are slow to anger.
Do not take me away.
Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.
¹⁶Your words came to me, and I devoured them.
Your words became my joy,
the delight of my heart,
because I bear your name,
O LORD God of Armies.
¹⁷I did not sit with the band of partygoers,
nor did I celebrate with them.
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me.

You filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unending?

Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?

Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me,
like a source of water that a person can't depend on?

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says.

If you repent, I will take you back,
so that you may stand before me.

If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless,
you will be my spokesman.

They must turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.

They will fight against you,
but they will not overcome you,
because I am with you to save you
and to rescue you, declares the LORD.

²¹I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 31A

Refrain

In you, O LORD, I have tak - en ref - uge.

Tone

In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my / faithful God.

My life is consumed by / anguish
and my years by / groaning;
my strength fails because of my af- / fliction,
and my / bones grow weak. *Refrain*

My times are / in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pur- / sue me.
Let your face shine on your / servant;
save me in your un- / failing love.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Hal H. Hopson; arr. Dale A. Witte
Setting: Hal H. Hopson; arr. Dale A. Witte
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Second Reading

Romans 8:18–25

For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. ¹⁹In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed. ²⁰For creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in the hope ²¹that even creation itself will be set free from slavery to corruption, in order to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

²²For we know that all of creation is groaning with birth pains right up to the present time. ²³And not only creation, but also we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we eagerly await our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. ²⁴Indeed, it was for this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he already sees? ²⁵But if we hope for something we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patient endurance.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Please stand*

Gospel Acclamation



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

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Gospel

Matthew 16:21–26

From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.”

²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

* We stand out of respect for the words and account of the life of our Savior and King, Jesus.

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.

Hymn of the Day

694 Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and
2 Let the world de - spise and leave me; they have left my
3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure! Come, dis - as - ter,
4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry, armed by faith and



fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, you on
Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your
winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;
hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,



all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and
swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to



my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.
heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt. | Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 | Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

We Hope for Future Joy

Romans 8:18–25

Please stand

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.

* 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.

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.

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

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. 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 www.gdluth.org/giving 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.

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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus†



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

* 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.

† We join the saints in the triumph song of the holy God who has rescued us. We sing, "Hosanna!" which means, "Please save us!" The traditional name for this song, *Sanctus*, is the Latin word for *Holy*.

na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer | Tune: © 2002 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 706345

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

- By his incarnation, he became one with us.
- By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
- By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
- By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. **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.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei†



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

* 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.

† 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*.

sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace.

A - men. A - men.

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Be seated

Distribution

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.

Double-sided cups will be distributed to communicants in the pews and the entire congregation will commune at the same time.

Please stand

Hymn of Thanksgiving

704 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus, s. 1, 3



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex -
3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus; his death from the



am - ple pure, flee the world which would de - ceive us and to
sec - ond death, from our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us, quick - ens



sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his foot - steps tread - ing,
us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti - fy, while liv - ing,



bod - y here, yet soul a - bove, full of faith and
flesh and blood and die to sin, and the grave that



hope and love, let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
shuts us in shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,



Lord, a - bide with me; Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.
here I die to thee, there to live e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Thanksgiving

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.†

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.

* These words of praise occur repeatedly in Scripture. For an example, see **Psalm 118:1**.

† **1 Corinthians 11:26**

‡ 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**.

Closing Hymn

831 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, though their weight
3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, and I will
4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, for I am
5 Since I know God nev - er fails me, in his voice



with his cheer; nev - er will he leave me.
may be great, they will not de - feat me.
trust him still when he sends me sad - ness.
his dear lamb, he, my Shep - herd ev - er.
I'll re - joice when grim death as - sails me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en that God's Son
God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sees them; he who knows
God is good; his love at - tends me day by day,
I am his be - cause he gave me his own blood
Trust - ing in my Sav - ior's mer - it, safe at last,



for me won when his life was giv - en?
all my woes knows how best to end them.
come what may, guides me and de - fends me.
for my good, by his death to save me.
trou - bles past, I shall heav'n in - her - it.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; (sts. 1–3): tr. Christian Worship, 1993; (st. 4): tr. Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955; (st. 5): tr. Harlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945
Tune: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–1676

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Text (sts. 1–3) and tune: Public domain

Calendar & Announcements

Sunday

Adult Bible Class [Genesis 1-11]	9:00 am
Worship	10:30 am
Coffee Hour	11:30 am

No Catechism (Labor Day)

Wednesday

Bible Information Class	2:30 pm
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Thursday

Senior Care Center Devotional Service [The Abigail, Redwood City]	10:00 am
Member Care Committee Meeting	7:00 pm

Next Sunday

Adult Bible Class [Genesis 1-11]	9:00 am
Worship	10:30 am
Coffee Hour	11:30 am
Catechism Class	12:00pm

Midweek Bible Class Resumes in September

Our midweek Bible Class studying the Gospel of Luke will resume after our summer break the week after Labor Day. Watch your email for a survey on what timing would work best for that class. As a reminder, last year we held an in-person session at church on Tuesday mornings at 10:30am and held an online session of the class on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm via Zoom.

Church Picnic at Twin Pines Park

October 15, 2023, 10:30am

Our annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, October 15. We will once again hold our service and potluck picnic meal in the Redwood Picnic Area of Twin Pines Park (1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002). Church will provide hamburgers and hotdogs; everyone is encouraged to bring side dishes and desserts to share. If you cannot bring anything to share, please come anyway. There's always plenty of food! We look forward to a day of outdoor worship and picnic fellowship to follow! If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor.

Congregational Voters' Meeting

October 29, 2023, 12pm

Our next congregational voters' meeting will be held on Sunday, October 29, following worship in the sanctuary. If you can, please plan to attend for important updates on our work as a congregation and to discuss and decisions that need to be made at that time. If you have any items you'd like to make sure are discussed at the meeting, please speak with Steve Hansen or Pastor Shrimpton.

Text Messages Reminders from Gloria Dei

We have added the ability to send out brief text message reminders ahead of worship services, classes, or meetings as a light reminder. Those that are already signed up have said they really appreciate it as a way to stay connected to the events of the congregation, and through that, our Savior's Word. To register you can go to this address (<http://gdluth.360members.com/opt-in/texting>) or scan the code to the right. Let Pastor Shrimpton know if you have any questions.



Reading and Congregational Brainstorming

Pastor Shrimpton has asked the members of the Church Council, the Evangelism Committee and the Member Care Committee to read through the book *The Gospel-Driven Church* by Jared Wilson this summer. While not a book that we would necessarily agree with every last point made, it emphasizes a Christian congregation's need to keep the gospel—the message of sins forgiven in Jesus—center to everything they do. The hope and prayer is that reading through this book will give our leadership opportunities to reflect on where we are doing work that God has entrusted to us well and perhaps to think through places where our work might be better focused on the message of Jesus rather than simply doing things just to do them. We will hold a brainstorming meeting late this summer or early this fall to discuss these matters, once people have had a chance to work through the book. The date of that meeting will be determined in the next couple of weeks.

All the members of Gloria Dei are invited to share in this reading exercise and join in the brainstorming session that will follow. If you are not a member of any of the leadership groups mentioned above, but know that you would like to be a part of these discussions, please let Pastor know. Once the date of the discussion has been determined, it will be shared with the congregation at large.

If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor.

Service and Sermon Notes



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Pastor Timothy Shrimpton
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As a family of believers, Gloria Dei proclaims God's glory, the good news of sins forgiven in Jesus. We teach the entirety of God's truth as revealed in the Bible to strengthen the faith of our members, to train those who wish to know more about their Savior, and to proclaim Christ-crucified to all the world.

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

