

# The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023



Gloria Dei  
Lutheran Church  
1963 — 2023

[gdluth.org](http://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.

## The Theme of Today's Worship

Give a single bag of candy to two four-year-olds and tell them to share. You will witness counting done with accountant-like precision. Each child will get an equal amount of candy because that is fair. Human beings have an incredibly strong sense of fairness. That is why it can be so perplexing when we see how God dispenses blessing and grace. We see people who mock God who are more prosperous than believers. We see people who convert on their deathbed, and Scripture tells us they obtain the same salvation as someone who has been Christian all his life. How is that fair?

Through a simple story, Jesus teaches us a profound truth. We need to stop expecting God to be fair. God is not fair. He does not give us what we deserve, and that's called mercy. In fact, he gives us what we don't deserve, and that's called grace. No, God is not fair. He is breathtakingly generous.

## Serving Today

**Presiding Minister & Preacher**.....Pastor Timothy Shrimpton  
**Organ Assistants**.....Ella and Emilia Donovan  
**Ushers** .....Jasen Higgins and Rick Huntington  
**Sunday School Teacher** .....Janet Powers  
**Coffee Hour Host**.....Donna DaSanBiagio

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# Morning Prayer

Matins

## Opening Hymn

575 By Grace I'm Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; my soul, be -  
2 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, came down to  
3 By grace! O mark this word of prom - ise when you are  
4 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, in trib - u -  
5 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; in Je - sus'



lieve and doubt it not. Why wa - ver at this word of  
earth to bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own  
by your sins op - pressed, when Sa - tan plagues your trou - bled  
la - tion's fur - nace tried, by grace, de - spite all fear and  
prom - ise I re - joice, for though I know my heart's con -



prom - ise? Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? So then this  
mer - it that Je - sus died, your soul to win? No, it was  
con - science, and when your heart is seek - ing rest. What rea - son  
trou - ble, the Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I  
di - tion, I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is



word must true re - main: by grace you, too, shall heav'n ob - tain.  
grace, and grace a - lone, that brought him from his heav'n - ly throne.  
can - not com - pre - hend God by his grace to you did send.  
help and strength se - cure if grace were not my an - chor sure?  
glad, all grief has flown since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Christian L. Scheidt, 1709-1761, abr. | Tune: Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697-1775 | Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



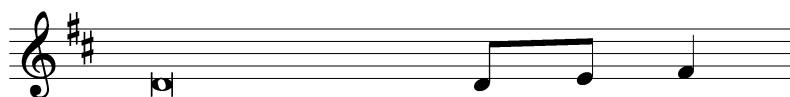
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;



O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



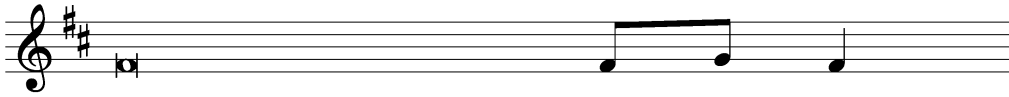
*Pentecost* The Spirit of the Lord fills the world:



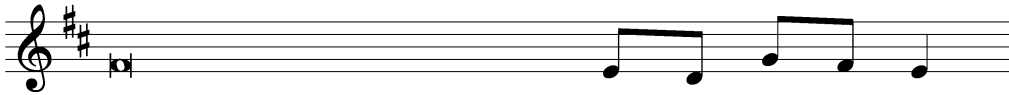
praise and thanks to God!

# O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

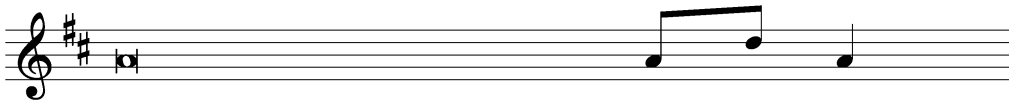
*Venite\**



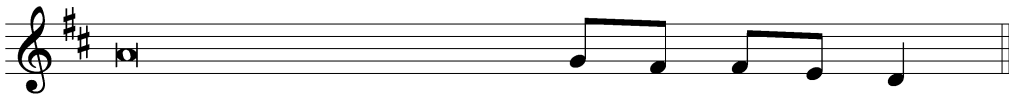
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great \_\_\_\_\_ God
- 3 The sea is his, for he made \_\_\_\_\_ it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and his hand formed the dry \_\_\_\_\_ land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow \_\_\_\_\_ down,
- 4 For he is our God,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
- 2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of his  
pasture and the sheep of his \_\_\_\_\_ hand.

*Be seated*

\* This song of praise uses the words of **Psalm 95** to praise our Maker, the one who make the heavens and the earth. The traditional name of this song, *Venite*, is the first word of the song in Latin meaning *Come*.

## First Reading

*Jonah 3:10–4:11*

When God saw their actions, that they had turned from their evil way, God relented from the disaster which he said he would bring on them, and he did not carry it out.

<sup>4</sup>But to Jonah all this seemed very bad, and he became very angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD, “LORD, wasn’t this exactly what I said when I was still in my own country? That is why I previously fled to Tarshish, because I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abounding in mercy, and you relent from sending disaster. <sup>3</sup>So now, LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>4</sup>But the LORD replied, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

<sup>5</sup>Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city. He made a shelter for himself there and sat in the shade under it, waiting to see what would happen in the city.

<sup>6</sup>Then the LORD God provided a plant and made it grow up over Jonah to provide shade over his head, to relieve him from his discomfort. So Jonah was very happy about the plant. <sup>7</sup>But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, and it attacked the plant so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind. The sun beat down on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, so he said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” Jonah said, “I do have a right to be angry—angry enough to die!”

<sup>10</sup>So the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant. You did not work for it or make it grow. It grew up in one night and perished after one night. <sup>11</sup>So should I not be concerned for Nineveh, the great city, in which there are more than one hundred twenty thousand people who do not know the difference between their right hand and their left—and also many animals?”

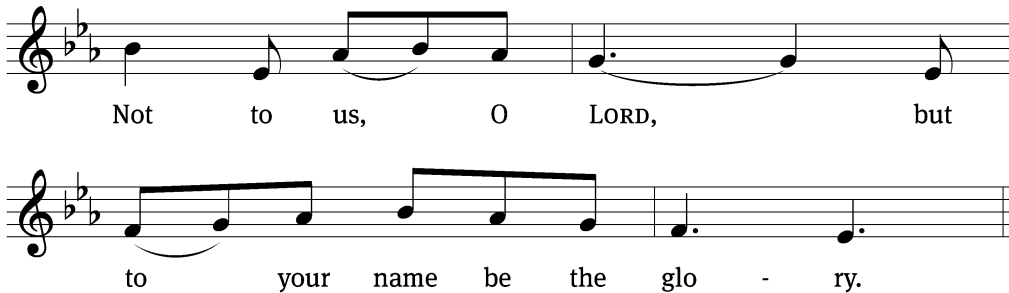
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm of the Day

Psalm 115A

## Refrain



Not to us, O LORD, but  
to your name be the glo - ry.

## Tone



Why do the nations say, “Where / is their God?”

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever / pleases him.

The LORD remembers us and will / bless us:

He will bless his people / Israel,

he will bless those who / fear the LORD—

small and / great alike. *Refrain*

All you Israelites, trust / in the LORD—

he is their / help and shield.

House of Aaron, trust / in the LORD—

he is their / help and shield.

You who fear him, trust / in the LORD—

he is their / help and shield.

**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: Michael D. Schultz

Setting: Michael D. Schultz

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



## Second Reading

Romans 9:6–16

This does not mean that God’s word has failed, because not all who are descended from Israel are really Israel, <sup>7</sup>and not all who are descended from Abraham are really his children. On the contrary, “Your line of descent will be traced through Isaac.” <sup>8</sup>This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are God’s children, but it is the children of the promise who are counted as his descendants. <sup>9</sup>For this is what the promise said: “I will arrive at this set time, and Sarah will have a son.”

<sup>10</sup>Not only that, but Rebekah also had children by one man, our forefather, Isaac. <sup>11</sup>Even before the twins were born or did anything good or bad, in order that God’s purpose in election might continue—<sup>12</sup>not by works but because of him who calls us—it was said to her, “The older will serve the younger.” <sup>13</sup>Just as it is written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

<sup>14</sup>What will we say then? Does this mean that God is unjust? Absolutely not! <sup>15</sup>For God says to Moses:

I will show mercy to whom I show mercy,  
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.

<sup>16</sup>So then, it does not depend on human desire or effort, but on God’s mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand\**

## Gospel

Matthew 20:1–16

[Jesus said] “Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. <sup>4</sup>To these he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup>When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, ‘Why have you stood here all day unemployed?’

<sup>7</sup>“They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’

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\* We stand in respect for the words and life of Jesus, our King.

“He told them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.’

<sup>9</sup>“When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>When those who were hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. <sup>11</sup>After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: <sup>12</sup>“Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!”

<sup>13</sup>“But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. <sup>15</sup>Can’t I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

## Hymn of the Day

*558 Salvation unto Us Has Come*



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come by God's free grace and  
2 What God did in his law de - mand and none to him could  
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream that God his law had  
4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, sin held its sway un -



fa - vor; good works can - not a - vert our doom, they help and  
ren - der caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand for man, the  
giv - en that sin - ners could them-selves re - deem and by their  
ceas - ing; the task was use - less and in vain, our guilt was



save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, who  
vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those pure de - sires the  
works gain heav - en. The law is but a mir - ror bright to  
e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's poi - soned dart or



did for all the world a - tone; he is our one Re - deem - er.  
spir - it of the law re - quires, and lost is our con - di - tion.  
bring the in - bred sin to light that lurks with - in our na - ture.  
pu - ri - fy our wick - ed heart, so deep is our cor - rup - tion.

5 Yet as the law must be fulfilled  
or we must die despairing,  
Christ came and has God's anger stilled,  
our human nature sharing.  
He has for us the law obeyed  
and thus the Father's vengeance stayed  
which over us impended.

6 Since Christ has full atonement made  
and brought to us salvation,  
each Christian therefore may be glad  
and build on this foundation.  
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,  
your death is now my life indeed,  
for you have paid my ransom.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt.  
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

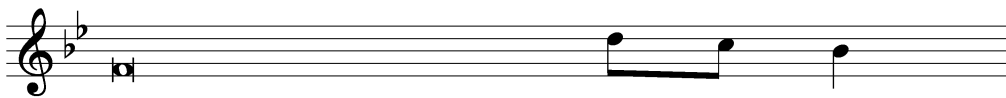
## Love Rejoices in Forgiveness

*Jonah 3:10–4:1*

*Please stand*

# We Praise You, O God

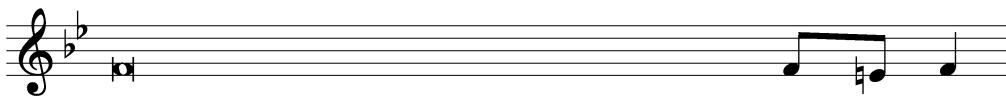
*Te Deum Laudamus\**



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim      you      as      Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of      heav'n - ly      hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs      praise —      you.



- 1 all creation worships you,      Fa - ther      ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are      full —      of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the      ho - ly Church ac - claims      you:



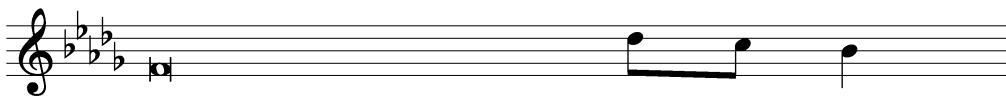
- 1 To you all angels, all the      pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles      praise —      you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and      on - ly Son;



- 1 cherubim and seraphim,      sing      in      end - less      praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of      proph - ets      praise —      you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit,      ad - vo - cate      and      guide.

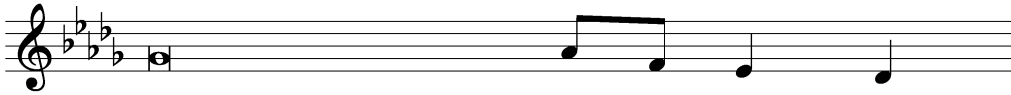


- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry,      the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.

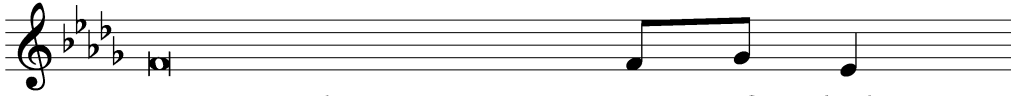


- 5 When you became man to      set      us      free,
- 6 You sit at the right      hand      of      God

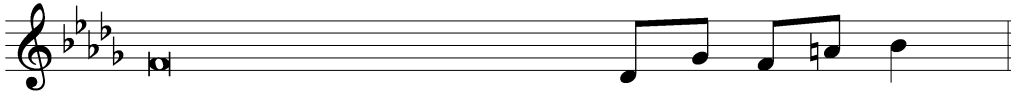
\* This song serves as the congregation's confession of faith in the service of Morning Prayer. This ancient canticle is a joyful response to the message of forgiveness proclaimed in the Lessons and Sermon. The traditional name of the song, *Te Deum Laudamus*, is the first phrase of the song in Latin, *We Praise You, God*.



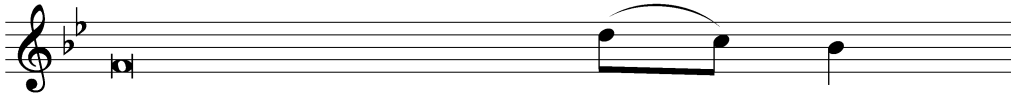
5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 You overcame the sting of death  
6 We believe that you will come



5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to be our judge.



7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,



7 bought with the price of your own blood,



7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

*Be seated*

## 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](http://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.

## Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie\*



Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and answer me.



Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and promise to reward us according to your grace. Help us to rid our minds of worldly expectations and rejoice that you freely pour out the blessings of salvation to all people; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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\* This closing prayer section of Morning Prayer begins with a final plea to God to hear and answer our prayers (“Lord, Have Mercy”). The first prayer is the Prayer of the Day, reflecting the focus of this morning’s worship. Other appropriate prayers may be inserted. The section closes with the model prayer that Jesus taught to his disciples, the Lord’s Prayer.

## Prayer

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**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.**

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\* When [Jesus] finished [praying], one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say, 'Our Father in heaven...'" (Luke 11:1-2).

# Blessing



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

# Closing Hymn

*581 Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose You*



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you; that, I know, could  
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, taught my dark - ened  
3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion, praise the Fa - ther's



nev - er be, for this heart would still re - fuse you  
heart and mind; else the world had yet en - thrall'd me,  
bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion,





had your grace not cho - sen me. You re - moved the  
to your heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship  
Priest and King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it



sin that stained me, cleans - ing me to be your own; for this  
none a - bove you; for your grace a - lone I thirst, know - ing  
of sal - va - tion, him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di -



pur - pose you or - dained me, that I live for you a - lone.  
well that, if I love you, you, O Fa - ther, loved me first.  
vid - ed ad - o - ra - tion to the great Je - ho - vah give.

Text: Josiah Conder, 1789–1855, alt.

Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745

Text and tune: Public domain

# Calendar & Announcements

## Sunday

Sunday School [Grades PreK-5th] and Bible Class [Genesis] .....	9:00 am
Worship .....	10:30 am
Coffee Hour .....	11:30 am
Catechism Class.....	12:00pm

## 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

Bible Information Class .....	2:30 pm
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## Thursday

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

## Next Sunday

Sunday School [Grades PreK-5th] and Bible Class [Genesis] .....	9:00 am
Worship .....	10:30 am
Coffee Hour .....	11:30 am
Catechism Class.....	12:00pm
Congregational Brainstorming Session.....	2:00pm

## Reading and Congregational Brainstorming

*October 1, 2:00pm*

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. All the members of Gloria Dei are invited to share in this reading exercise and join in the brainstorming session on October 1. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor.

## **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.



**(650) 593-3361 | [www.gdluth.org](http://www.gdluth.org)  
2600 Ralston Avenue, Belmont, CA 94002**

*Pastor Timothy Shrimpton  
pastor@gdluth.org*

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](http://www.wels.net)*

