



**Holy Communion
Sundays**
at 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
10:45 a.m. live on YouTube

Welcome to Worship at Gloria Dei!

As we worship together, know that we are delighted you are here. We gather in both the church and online, one community in different places. We celebrate the gift of community and our mission to be a congregation that cares, heals, welcomes and does justice.

Parish Announcements - September 24, 2023

Worship, Music and Art

Bless Your Pet. The annual Blessing of the Animals will be held at Gloria Dei on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 1 p.m. on the front lawn (weather permitting). Bring your pets whether they be canines, felines, feathery, furry, scaly or breathing through gills. To paraphrase St. Francis of Assisi: If you exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will likewise exclude compassion from your neighbor.

Submissions Open for Gloria Dei Art Show.

This November, the Art Gallery at Gloria Dei will be alive with *Vision of Community*, a physical showing of the creativity and energetic spirit of the congregation expressed as visual art! Applications are now available for you to submit your artwork. Stop by the Gallery entrance stairway to pick up forms (one for each artwork, please). The drop box for forms is there as well. Or save the paper and go to tinyurl.com/gdARTAPP for a digital copy. Please return your completed form(s) via email to danarts@me.com or drop them in the box at the Gallery entrance. Deadline for entry is now Oct. 22, so there's plenty of time to still get creative. Please join in the celebration of our community ... we're old, young, and in-between, we're beginner, hobbyist, and professional ... all are welcome here! Add your work to the visual conversation of ideas

and images that will be buzzing in the Gallery in November and December.

Faith Formation

Today at Sunday Forum. *Building Community in Crisis* will be the focus of this week's Sunday Forum. Gloria Dei's Mental Health and Hope in Recovery team will be presenting. September is Recovery Month. How does our community support and encourage families in their journeys of recovery? Gloria Dei members Alex Stegeman and Alycia Lopez will give us tools and insights into the needs and challenges for those in recovery describing ways we can be supportive of those in crisis in our community. Sunday Forum meets in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Forum next week, Oct. 1: *Building Community on Sacred Ground* will be presented by The Highland Heritage Project, a grant-funded initiative to support the research and preservation of the history of our neighborhood. Continuing the discussion they introduced last winter, the HHP will further our understanding of the historic patterns of property in our community. They will more deeply describe both the history and current experience of Dakota people in Highland and Mendota.

It's Taco Wednesday This Wednesday. This week's menu features a taco bar with seasoned beef or chicken, pinto beans, Mexican rice and soft or hard shell tortillas. Wednesday Supper serving runs from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Suggested donation is \$5 per meal but all are welcome.

Faith & Science Considers AI Impacts. The Faith and Science group meetings will resume on Thursday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. in the Mississippi Room. This month's discussion topic is "How Should Christians Think About Artificial Intelligence?" AI promises to provide enormous benefits to our society: the end of hunger and menial labor, the cure of horrific diseases, advancement in our cultural lives etc. But there is also a downside. Will it harm or enhance our faith tradition? Will humanoids be conscious and have a soul? Will AI lead to the formation of new religions? What is the morality of human/machine hybrids? These are the kind of questions we will consider at our meeting. This is a hybrid meeting; those wanting to participate by Zoom can get the link at tinyurl.com/gdFSCI924. Email ronfelt118@comcast.net for more information.

Get Your Shared Ministry Booklet. The Shared Ministry Committee is pleased that so many have looked through the service ministries described in the Volunteer Ministry Opportunities booklet and returned the inventory forms. If you are still thinking about your response, we have a little sweetener just to make it more fun! When you complete and return the forms, you will automatically be entered to win a beautiful hand-turned wood bowl in the weekly drawings through September. Congratulations to Roy Satre, the winner of last week's drawing! The Opportunities booklets are available and placed around Gloria Dei, but the full contents are also available by clicking here, so you can quickly access the form, then complete and submit it immediately online. Thanks for helping to keep Gloria Dei's mission active, showing God's love to the community by using your gifts in service to so many. Opportunities booklets are available at Gloria Dei, but the full contents are also available by clicking these links:

- Gifts & Passions link. tinyurl.com/gdGIFTS23
- Ministry Involvement Link: tinyurl.com/gdMINISTRY

You can quickly access the form, then complete and submit it immediately online. Thanks for helping to keep Gloria Dei's mission active, showing God's love to the community by using your gifts in service to so many.

Fall Writing Class Starts. Writing is a way to reflect on your life story and to deepen your awareness of God. At Gloria Dei's *In Your Own Words, Contemplative Writing as a Spiritual Practice* you can join with others to write and to share your words, if you wish. Come to listen with the ears of your heart. The fall series has begun and meets on Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Led by Nancy Agneberg, writer, spiritual director, and member of Gloria Dei, the sessions are free and open to all, regardless of writing experience. For details or to register, email nagneberg48@gmail.com or call 608-698-8100.

Psalms Bible Study. Join us for six Wednesday evenings to explore the Psalms. What's their origin? What's their purpose? Why do we keep using them after so many centuries? How do they speak to us today? *Enter the Psalms* will meet Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., starting Oct. 4 through Nov. 15 (no meeting Oct. 18). Join others for a one-hour discussion as we reflect on how scripture touches our lives. No former expertise or knowledge needed. Bring a bible, or use one here at church. Dinner is served on Wednesdays at Gloria Dei for a \$5 donation, beginning at 5:45 p.m. Come and eat first if you'd like, then join us for these evenings of reflection, exploration, and growth. Sign up at tinyurl.com/gdPSALMS.

How to Share Your Story. We all have a story to share. At *Story Telling Cohort: Sharing a Life Narrative*, Gretchen Sage-Martinson will lead a four-week workshop on how you can find and tell your story. It will meet Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 at Gloria Dei. Gretchen, a long-time English teacher who has been trained by The Moth, has led storytelling slams at women's retreats. To register at tinyurl.com/fallstory23

Learn About National Youth Gathering. The ELCA National Youth Gathering will be in New Orleans, July 16 - 20, 2024. Gloria Dei is partnering with Immanuel Lutheran and Pilgrim Lutheran in making the trip to the event. Students in grades 8 to 12 are encouraged to participate in this exciting opportunity to gather with youth groups from all over the country! The registration deadline is October 1. Learn more at the informational meeting today at 9:30 a.m. at Gloria Dei in the Minnesota Room if you are interested. You can also learn more at tinyurl.com/gdYOUTHG24.

Third Chapter Considers Building Community. How do we define community? How can Gloria Dei become a stronger community and what are our needs for this community as we age? Listen and share your thoughts in informal conversation for the first Third Chapter gathering of the program year. The session will be held, Tuesday, Oct. 10, 1-2:30 p.m. in the Mississippi Room. Email nagneberg48@gmail.com to register.

First Communion Class is Oct. 14. At Gloria Dei, families decide when their child is ready to start participating in communion. Is your child asking a lot of questions about communion and showing interest? Sign up on our website for the upcoming First Communion Instruction class for children and parents on Saturday, Oct. 14, 9-11:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth+Donuts=Fun. 7th-10th-grade youth are invited to informal Sunday morning gatherings on Oct. 8 and Nov. 12 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Minnesota Room. This will be a time to chat with friends, make new ones, play games and eat delicious donuts! No RSVP needed – hope to see you there.

Health and Healing

Recovery Month Events. As part of Recovery Month this September, the Gloria Dei Mental Health and Recovery Ministry offers the following from Father Richard Rohr, who offers daily meditations online. This one was published Nov. 15, 2015. Father Rohr is an American Franciscan priest and writer on spirituality who is

based in Albuquerque. Go to tinyurl.com/gdGRACE924 to ready *Saved by Grace*.

Fall Prevention. Join the Minnesota Department of Health and partners this week to raise awareness and help older adults reduce their risk of falls. MDH recently published a new webpage dedicated to preventing falls. The webpage provides data on falls in Minnesota as well as information on what individuals, communities, and health care providers can do to help prevent falls. Go to tinyurl.com/gdFALLS to learn more.

Social Justice and Outreach

Help Feed Teens at SafeHouse. Gloria Dei members and friends purchase, prepare and deliver a meal once a month to SafeHouse, a 30-day emergency shelter for homeless youth in St. Paul coordinated by Lutheran Social Services. The 2023-2024 registration for SafeHouse meals is now open. To sign up or get information, go to tinyurl.com/gdSAFEMEAL. Meals should consist of 8 adult-sized portions and be delivered to SafeHouse by 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Stewardship and Giving

Donor Opportunity is Open for Tanzania Scholarships Gloria Dei has committed to providing scholarships for secondary school students for our companion congregation in Kilengapasi, Tanzania. These funds are distributed to students who need help with lodging, books and other school fees. Both girl and boy students receive funds. We are looking for donors to pledge \$450 per year for four years to further the education of these amazing scholars. You will be joining a team of GDLC members who have generously been able to provide funding. This is a great opportunity if you aren't able to travel but want to support our partnership in a tangible way that reaches far into the future for these learners. If you can help, contact Beverly Sargeant at beverly@gloriadeistpaul.org.

Donate Some Donut Holes. Something's been missing on Sunday mornings, round, neat and oh-so-sweet. We depend on the generosity of members to help restock the bowls of donut holes for between-service snacking. It costs \$65 to purchase a Sunday's worth of donut holes. Go to tinyurl.com/gdHOLES924 to sponsor the treats for a specific. After you submit your order, you will receive a confirmation email that includes a link for online payment. You may also leave your cash or check payment in the offering plate or the church office in an envelope that is clearly marked with the date you selected, "donut holes" and your name. Thank you for considering filling the donut hole "hole."

Second Offering Goes to Backpack Program.

September's Second Offering will be going to support the Highland Elementary Backpack Food Program. At the end of each week Gloria Dei volunteers pack and deliver nutritious snacks for students at Highland Elementary School. Proceeds help to purchase food items to be put into the packs. More information about the backpack program and how you can help can be found online. Online donations can be made at [tinyurl/gdBACKPACK23](http://tinyurl.com/gdBACKPACK23) any time of the month. Through Sunday, \$1,826 has been raised through Second Offering.

Options for Giving to Gloria Dei. Your generosity blesses and enriches Gloria Dei's work and ministries of love, welcome, care, healing and justice. We have multiple options for giving as you are able:

- Electronically through Vanco Payments, a third-party website (tinyurl.com/gdvanco23).
- Vanco Mobile App, a third party (bit.ly/VancoMobileChange), or by text to 651-400-8624 with the amount (example: 25).
- Share it in the offering plates during in-person worship.
- Mail your offering to the church office at 700 Snelling Ave. S., Saint Paul, MN 55116. Note on the memo line if you'd like to designate your gift for a specific fund.

Other Ways to Engage with Gloria Dei

In addition to the activities mentioned here, please join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways to assist in Faith Formation.

- **Men's Book Group** meets monthly on a Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Find the meeting dates and book list on our website at tinyurl.com/gdMENBOOK.
- **Children and Family Programs** help with Sunday morning opportunities with our younger learners. Get more info by emailing kidsministry@gloriadeistpaul.org.
- **Confirmation Mentors** meet one-on-one on average monthly with 9th and 10th graders to foster their faith formation. Email prlois@gloriadeistpaul.org to learn more.
- **Third Chapter** provides special learning opportunities for senior learners. Email nagneberg48@gmail.com to learn more.
- **Good News 4U Bible Study** on Mondays at 10 a.m. in the church. Email renaas@comcast.net with questions.
- **Contemplative Writing as a Spiritual Practice** meets Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Email nagneberg48@gmail.com to learn more.
- **Soul Food** meets Wednesdays, 9:30-11 a.m., discusses books from a faith perspective. More info at gdSOUL23@tinyurl.com; email prlois@gloriadeistpaul.org to be included.
- **Faith & Science**, meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. Email ronfelt118@comcast.net for more information.

Next week: More ways to engage and help with worship.

Gloria Dei News. To receive our weekly eNews email and other emails, please contact the church office (office@gloriadeistpaul.org). You can also visit our website for news and other messages about our ministries and program (gloriadeistpaul.org/news).

To receive our weekly prayer list email, please sign up online (bit.ly/PrayerListEmail). On Friday mornings, you'll receive an email that lists our brothers and sisters who have requested our prayers. You can opt out at any time.

Submit Gloria Dei news and events by noon on Mondays. Please use the online form at gloriadeistpaul.org/News. Your submission goes to the communications staff.

Reserve a room for a Gloria Dei-sponsored meeting or event through this online form: bit.ly/RoomRequestGDLC. Your submission goes to the office staff. If you have any questions, please contact Office Coordinator Karen Earhuff (office@gloriadeistpaul.org).

Try our Technology for Improved Sound in the Sanctuary. Upgraded technology helps us support individual sound needs. All you need is a smartphone with Wi-Fi capability and earphones, or your hearing device or cochlear implant. Download the Listening Technologies “Listen Everywhere” app (free app), and connect to the dedicated Gloria Dei Wi-Fi (network: Gloria Dei AV System, password: GloriaDeiAV3014). Plug in your earphones, or connect your hearing device with Bluetooth, and launch the app. If you have any questions, please talk with an usher on Sunday mornings. Learn more on the Listen Technologies website (listentech.com/listen-everywhere). Once you have used the Listen Everywhere app once, you should be able to easily connect the next time.

Mission Statement

By God's grace, we are called to be a caring, healing and welcoming community who proclaim and celebrate the love of Jesus Christ, live as God's servants and seek justice for all people.

Our Guiding Principles

- Rooted in **Christ**, we worship with meaning and relevance.
- Rooted in **Generosity**, we share our resources and our building.
- Rooted in **Compassion**, we serve and advocate.
- Rooted in **Justice**, we acknowledge privilege and combat racism.
- Rooted in **Love**, we build intentional and diverse relationships.
- Rooted in **Beauty**, we seek transformation through music and art.

Gloria Dei Staff

Pastor Bradley E. Schmeling, Senior Pastor
Pastor Lois Pallmeyer, Associate Pastor
Pastor Jennifer Hackbarth, Interim Associate Pastor
Kyrstin Schwartz, Children's Ministry Director
Timothy Strand, Music Director
Jill Stewart, Parish Nurse
Beverly Sargent, Finance & Administration
Director
Tadhg Ferris Wayne, Director of Worship Technologies
Thor Carlson, Communications and Technology
Coordinator
Karen Earhuff, Office Coordinator
Jazz Vogel, Bookkeeper
Clayton Gardner, Building Supervisor
Johnny Alexander, Custodian
Brian Henderson, Custodian

Contact Us

651-699-1378
700 Snelling Ave. S.
Saint Paul, MN 55116
office@gloriadeistpaul.org
www.GloriaDeiStPaul.org

Welcome Statement

All are welcome at Gloria Dei. We rejoice that diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share as members of the body of Christ and workers in the kingdom of God. We believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally, without regard to age, race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, family configuration or relationship status, socio-economic status, mental health status, or physical or mental abilities. We strive to be a more inclusive and anti-racist community. We know that the world is often an unloving place and that the experience of alienation is all too common. To those who have felt excluded here or elsewhere, we extend a particular welcome in Christ's love.

Land Acknowledgment Statement

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church recognizes that its building stands on traditional Dakota land near Bdote Mni Sota, the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers, the center of creation for Dakota people and also sacred to Ojibwe. The congregation acknowledges that this land was taken from Indigenous people by exploitation and violence. Given the deep significance of this sacred ground, as well as its painful history, the congregation recognizes its responsibility to use this land, its building and mission for the work of reconciliation and healing with Native people. The congregation repents of this injustice that continues to harm Native communities and pledges to work for justice, peace and the wellbeing of all creation.

Let the Children Come

Children are the church of the present and the future, and Gloria Dei welcomes them in worship along with their giggles, wiggles and questions. They learn to worship as they see, hear, feel and even smell the Sanctuary during worship. They learn about worship when they watch their household and others sing, pray, participate and give offerings. They learn about community when we smile at them, learn their names and share the Peace of the Lord. We invite you to share our Worship Activity Bags Center with them (just outside the Narthex). When they need a bit more space, we provide a coloring table and toys in the Gathering Place where the worship service shows on an LED screen. Our Nursery is available to use during worship (ushers can help you find it).