



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

Welcome to Worship at Gloria Dei!

Welcome to worship at Gloria Dei. Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here. Every Sunday, the body of Christ gathers in this sanctuary to hear God's word of unconditional grace, share a meal of mercy and forgiveness and is then sent into the world to follow Jesus with peace, compassion and justice. Thank you for joining our mission. Please let us know how we can assist you in being at home with us.

Parish Announcements - January 28, 2024

Learn the Details of the 2024 Budget. In preparation for the Congregational Annual Meeting convening next Sunday, Pastor Bradley will present his annual State of the Congregation message during the **Sunday Forum at 9:30 a.m. today** in Fellowship Hall. This meeting is especially important this year as the 2024 budget planning is more complex than in past years. The session will also take time to reflect on the life of our congregation as we embark on this year. What are our current strengths and joys? What challenges do we face in meeting our mission goals for 2024? Annual reports for 2023 will be available at the meeting and will also be shared via the eNews and by pick-up at the church office.

Annual Meeting/Potluck. Join us for our annual meeting, Sunday, Feb. 4, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We will celebrate the mission and ministries of our congregation, adopt our annual mission budget, consider our priorities, and share the dreams for God's work at Gloria Dei in 2024. All confirmed members and prospective members are invited to join the Annual Meeting in Fellowship Hall. Before the business starts, we'll enjoy potluck meal. Can you help us serve? Sign up at tinyurl.com/GDLCPOTLUCK24.

Wondering what to bring? If you have something amazing you really want to bring, go ahead! But here are some ideas, if your last name starts with:

- A-G: bring salads, vegetables, side dishes.
- H-J: bring breads, rolls, spreads, condiments.
- K-S: bring main dishes, meat, cheeses, vegetarian and vegan options.
- T-Z: bring desserts.

Please label if your dish is vegan, vegetarian, gluten free or includes nuts. Also, because our goal is to generate as little trash as possible, please plan accordingly. Use compostable or washable dishes, and limit the amount of packaging you use. Hope to see you there!

Worship, Music and Art

Counting Down the Days to Pr. Jodi's Arrival.

Associate Pastor Jodi Houge will be preach in worship next Sunday and will be installed at both services on Sunday, Feb. 11. Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber, one of her closest friends, will be preaching. Pastor Nadia is an ordained Lutheran pastor, founder of House for All Sinners & Saints in Denver, CO, the creator and host of *The Confessional* podcast and the author of three New York Times bestselling memoirs on religion. Welcome receptions in the Gathering Place for Pastor Jodi will follow each service on Feb. 11.

Faith Formation

Sunday Forum Next Week: Historic Treasure Hunt. During the long months of pandemic, when we were unable worship in the building, Gloria Dei archivists were busy sorting and organizing many of the historic papers and artifacts of our congregation's rich past. On February 4, they will share some of the more unique and treasured items they found. Those who are interested will be invited to explore the hidden corners of the building, including the newly organized archive chamber on the 3rd floor. Come to discover parts of Gloria Dei's story which you may have never heard.

Soup is On for Wednesday Supper. Gloria Dei's Wednesday Night Supper will feature a soup bar including chicken wild rice soup, tomato basil soup (vegetarian), freshly baked bread and garden salad. Wednesday Supper is 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A free will offering is accepted.

First Communion Class is Feb. 10. 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 at tinyurl.com/gdCOMMUNE224. The class for children and parents meets on Saturday, Feb. 10, 9-11:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

Health and Healing

Week 5 of Winter Wellness: Sharing Light. Perhaps you have noticed that days are growing longer. This week includes Candlemas (the time to bless candles used in worship) and appreciate the power of love and light, especially Christ's light. As the darker season eases, we can brighten our days by practices for caring for our bodies, minds and spirit. At home, consider all of the sources of light in your life (windows, candles, lamps, scripture, relationships, happy memories, faith, God's love) and appreciate their gifts to you. Think about ways that our thoughts, words and actions reflect God's light.

Ways to share God's light with others at Gloria Dei include volunteering for Prayer Teams and Care Team Ministries of knitters, quilters, grief support, altar service, cards and visitation ministries for homebound members.

Gloria Dei Blood Drive is Tomorrow.

Appointments are plentiful for the Red Cross Circle of Faith blood drive Gloria Dei is hosting on Monday from noon to 6 p.m. Go to tinyurl.com/gdBLOOD124 or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment. There currently is an emergency shortage of blood at hospitals and clinics. Giving blood is a simple thing to do, but it can make a big difference in the lives of others. Each donor can help save up to three lives. If you are interested in helping as a volunteer at the drive, please contact parish nurse Jill Stewart at 651-699-1378 ext. 3031 or emailing nurse@gloriadeistpaul.org.

Stewardship and Giving

January Second Offering Supports Global Mission. We support partners in Tanzania and Guatemala. Gloria Dei has partner congregations, El Divino Salvador del Mundo in Guatemala and in Kilengapasi Parish, in Tanzania. Your generous offerings will help purchase books for 200 school children at Colegio Luterano Agustino de Guatemala. You can also contribute online at tinyurl.com/gdGLOBAL124 or dropping it off at the church office. As of Sunday, the second offering has raised \$2,457. Thank you all!

Organ Prints, Notecards Available. We're wrapping up our year of celebration for *Rise, O Church* by making watercolor prints of the organ in our renewed sanctuary available to everyone. Options include a limited run of 50 8x10 signed and numbered prints of Matt Nowaczewski's original watercolor painting of our new organ. Each print will be matted and secured in an 11x14 frame. Cost is \$75. One pack of five notecards, folded to 5x7 featuring Matt's original watercolor printed on the front and with envelopes included, costs \$20. To order prints,

go to tinyurl.com/gdPRINT124. Go to tinyurl.com/gdNOTE124 to order notecards.

Social Justice and Outreach

Planning Starts for Civil Rights Tour. An informational meeting about a possible Civil Rights Tour in April 2025 will be held Sunday, Feb. 25, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 203. A group from Gloria Dei is planning a tour that would include stops in Mississippi, and Tennessee and Alabama specifically Birmingham (worship at 16th Street Baptist Church and other historic sites), Selma (Edmund Pettus Bridge and memorials), and Memphis (tour National Civil Rights Museum/Lorraine Motel). Also part of the trip will be meeting people who lived in and were influenced by the events of the 1960s and several interpretive museums. Email Will Nordmark at willnordmark@gmail.com with any questions.

Hear Native Storytelling Program Today. Gloria Dei members are invited to spend an afternoon of winter storytelling with community outreach and culture teacher Hope Flanagan (Seneca) from *Dream of Wild Health* today at 2 p.m. at the Minnesota History Center (545 Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul). Storytelling is an integral part of Native American culture. Hope was at Gloria Dei for a Sunday Forum last fall to share about *Dream of Wild Health*, the Native American farming and nutrition program Gloria Dei is developing a relationship with over the past year.

Guatemala Friends Gathering is Feb. 10. Have you been involved with the St. Paul Synod's outreach efforts to our siblings in Guatemala? Are you interested and want to learn more? A "Gather with Guatemala Friends" event will be Saturday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m. at Augustana Lutheran Church, West St. Paul. As companions on the journey, those attending will join Pr. Karen Castillo and the Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG) staff to learn more about migration, family challenges, village church impact, ILAG support and response along with discussion and Q/A time.

Film Busts Myths of Teen Suicide. Gloria Dei's mental health ministries invite all to become familiar with current myths about youth suicide and why it is important these myths are de-bunked by attending the screening of the film "My Ascension." It explores the life of Emma Benoit who survived a suicide attempt at age 16 that left her paralyzed but propelled her on a mission to use her experience to help other young people find hope and stay alive. Gain important insights from the story of Emma Benoit and how it has changed both her life and the lives of others. The screening will be Sunday, Feb. 4, 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4100 Lyndale Ave S., Minneapolis.

Help Feed Homeless Youth in St. Paul. Gloria Dei volunteers provide a meal every fourth Wednesday of the month for residents of Safe House, an emergency shelter for homeless youth ages 16-20 located in St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood. Typically meals are dropped off by 6:30 p.m. and should consist of eight adult-sized portions that include a main dish, side dish, vegetable and 2% milk. Juice and/or dessert are welcome, but not required. Go to tinyurl.com/gdSAFEHOUSE to learn more about the program, how to make a delivery, see a list of menu suggestions or to sign up to serve a meal on an available date in 2024.

Work Permits Have Rojas Looking for Jobs. The parents of the asylum-seeking family living in Room 99, Stephanie and Luis Rojas, received the best Christmas present ever—work permits! They are now eligible and eager to seek employment and begin the next phase of their journey toward independence. Stephanie has recently started a full-time position as a classroom assistant at El Jardin, a child care center in St. Paul. Luis is currently volunteering with Gloria Dei's worship tech team to help with the livestream. While living in Perú, he gained broad experience in food service, and hopes to find a full-time position within that industry. As opportunities arise, he would also like to work in AV communications. If you know of an opportunity that might fit their skills, or have a connection to someone who does, please contact Lenore Franzen at lfranzen18@gmail.com.

Community

Sacred Fire/Potluck Invitation. The Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community invites members of Gloria Dei to an "Honoring Our Ancestors Sacred Fire Ceremony" and potluck. It will be held Saturday, Feb. 3, 11 a.m. at Fort Snelling State Park. The park entrance is off Highway 5 at Post Road near the Minneapolis / St. Paul International Airport. Please bring a dish to share for the potluck from 12:30-3 p.m. The potluck will be at the new office at 1200 Centre Pointe Curve, Mendota Heights. For more information, call the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community office at 651-452-4141. Dress warmly, the ceremony is outside. Women should wear skirts with pants underneath to keep warm.

Ways to Help With Outreach In addition to the activities noted above, join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways to assist in outreach ministries.

- **Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative** advocates for affordable housing options across the metro area. Contact Don Fulton (revdfulton@comcast.net).
- **Caring for Creation** promotes more sustainable practices in individual lives and around the Gloria Dei facilities, and advocates for public policy addressing climate change. Contact Stephanie Stegeman (stephaniestegeman@gmail.com).
- **Global Missions Team** coordinates global mission efforts with partners in Guatemala and Tanzania. Contact Kenton Johnson (kentonmarkjohnson@gmail.com).
- **Habitat for Humanity** Partners with Interfaith Builders to build safe, affordable homes for families in need. Contact Matt Sherwood (mgsherwood@yahoo.com).
- **Immigrant Justice Team** is dedicated to guiding Gloria Dei's support for immigrants in our community through direct assistance and advocacy. Contact Claire Hoyum (choyum@comcast.net).

- **Loaves and Fishes** feeds an evening meal at the Dorothy Day Center in downtown St. Paul on the 4th Wednesday of every other month. Contact Cheryl Stever (mncinhouse@hotmail.com).
- **Project Home Meals** serves supper and hosts Bingo for homeless families staying at Project Home at Provincial House two Sundays a month. Contact Marie Hanson (mariehanson63@gmail.com).
- **Racial Justice Committee** coordinates Gloria Dei's activities in support of racial justice and equality. Contact Deanna Thompson (thomps38@stolaf.edu).
- **Weekend Back Pack Program** packs and delivers healthy snacks for students at Highland Elementary School. Contact Mary Jo Hallberg (mjhallberg33@msn.com).
- **Welcoming Committee** works with ministries to evaluate and enhance signs of welcome to new faces coming to Gloria Dei. Contact Julie Printz (jprintz123@gmail.com).

Next week: Ways to help with Faith Formation. See all Gloria Volunteer Opportunities at: gloriadeistpaul.org/giving/volunteer/

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 programs at 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/RoomRequestGDL. 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* *listeneverywhere*). 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
Kyrstin Schwartz, Children's Ministry Director
Ashley Greenwood, Deacon of Youth and Family Faith Formation
Timothy Strand, Music Director
Dennis Freisen-Carper, Director of Instrumental Ensembles and Composer in Residence
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).