



**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 - March 31, 2024

Worship, Music & Art

Happy Easter from Gloria Dei. Just a reminder that the building will be closed on Monday and all regular Monday church activities will be postponed until the following week.

New Member Class April 9. Are you new to Gloria Dei? Have you been thinking about becoming a member of our church? We invite you to a New Member Class on Tuesday, April 9, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll talk about Gloria Dei our mission and ministry, and ways to get involved. New members will be welcomed in worship on Sunday, April 28. Contact Pastor Jodi (prjodi@gloriadeistpaul.org) or Pastor Lois (prlois@gloriadeistpaul.org) to RSVP to get more information.

Join the Livestream Team. As we're learning more about the sound dynamics of the remodeled sanctuary, the livestream crew is learning that we need more helpers to make sure sound levels are good in both the sanctuary and on the livestream. That requires two people adjusting the sound levels going to each destination. Are you interested in audio-visual production? We're looking to add to our team so that each person's commitment to this volunteer role would be about once per month. No prior experience is needed, and training is done on a one-on-one basis. This is a great worship volunteer

experience for adults and teens. If you're not sure but want to learn more, you're always welcome to come shadow a livestream shift and see the work in action. To learn more about joining the team, contact Tadhg Wayne Ferris at worshiptech@gloriadeistpaul.org or Thor Carlson at communications@gloriadeistpaul.org.

Faith Formation

Support Youth Programs With Flowers. Buy a 12-inch hanging multi-colored petunia basket to support our youth programs. Baskets will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, May 1. Each basket will be \$35 with all proceeds supporting our youth programs, thanks to a donation from a generous member. Programs include our youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July and the Duluth Mission/Adventure Trip in August. As a special offer, you can pre-order beautiful mum plants arriving Sunday, Sept. 1. Save money and get your 12-inch mum plant at a low cost of \$20. (The price will be marked up for sale this August). Go to tinyurl.com/gdflowersale to place and pay for your order. We appreciate your support and are so happy to share these beautiful plants with you!

Faith and Science Looks at Eco-Crisis. The next Faith and Science meeting will be on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Mississippi Room. You can also participate virtually using Zoom at tinyurl.com/gdFSZOOM424. This month's topic: *Science, Truth, and Christian Faith in a Time of Eco-Crisis*. We will view a video of the lecture given by Dr. Rick Lindroth at Luther Seminary, followed by a discussion. You can preview the lecture at tinyurl.com/gdFS424. The ecological polycrisis confronting the world today is unparalleled in human history and threatens to unravel, within decades, the very fabric of civilization. Long battered by the "dominion" theology of Christianity, the global environment has suffered further in recent decades because of entrapment in a vortex of science denialism, political polarization and cultural tribalism. As a faith system committed to truth, hope, and unity across cultural divides, Christianity also provides a path forward. Dr. Lindroth argues for a re-wilding of the Christian ethic of creation care — one that promotes enchantment, connection, reciprocity and justice — for the betterment of humanity and flourishing of the living world.

Meet Spring's Featured Artist. Sunday Forum returns April 7, 9:30-10:30 a.m., with the chance to meet this spring's featured artist. Anishinaabe artist Kent Estey grew up on the White Earth Reservation in Minnesota. He says, "I knew I wanted to be an artist, but buying paint, brushes and canvas were not within reason. So, I remember mixing a combination of dirt and sand with water to make my paint. I had to leave the color to the imagination." He will speak about the spiritual origins of his works filled with bright color that show his deep connection to the land in Minnesota. Come to learn about his work, his faith, and his inspiration.

Become Part of a Community of Writers. The spring series of "In Your Own Words, Contemplative Writing as a Spiritual Practice" begins Thursday, April 11, and is open to all, regardless of writing experience. Come to write and to share your words, if your wish. Come to deepen your awareness of God in your life on Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon in the

Mississippi Room. Led by Nancy Agneberg, writer, spiritual director, and member of Gloria Dei. Free and open to all, regardless of writing experience. Email Nancy at nagneberg48@gmail.com with questions or to register or call her at 608-698-8100.

Youth Lock-in is Friday. From 7 p.m. April 5 to 9 a.m. the next morning Gloria Dei youth in grades 6 to 12 are invited to a lock-in filled with crazy games, an evening devotion, and lots of yummy snacks. The event is free and registration is open at tinyurl.com/gdLOCKIN45. Donations of snacks and drinks are also being accepted.

Save the Date for River Cruise. Save the date for a fun summer boat ride on the Mississippi River to renew friendships and build new ones in our Gloria Dei community. We will cruise the on the *Betsey Northrup* riverboat on Friday, July 12 from 7-9 p.m. Boarding starts at 6:30 p.m. on Harriet Island near downtown St. Paul. All ages are encouraged to come. Pricing is \$16 adults, \$15 seniors, \$11 ages 3-17, and free for children 2 and under yet still requiring a reservation. Watch for a link in upcoming eNews posts to purchase tickets.

Synodical Women's Convention is April 27. Mark your calendar for the 35th Annual Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization Convention. It will be Saturday, April 27, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 5879 Wyoming Trail, Wyoming, MN. The keynote speaker is Rev. Angela !Khabeb, a Bridges Scholar and Distinguished Alumna of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago where she received the 2018 Emerging Voice Award and the James Kenneth Echols Prize for Excellence in Preaching. Come and share and love one another with the women of our Synod. Register at tinyurl.com/gdSWO24. For registration information, contact Amy Hendricksen at amyhendricksen@gmail.com or 773-383-5477 or 1181 Edgcombe Rd #101, St Paul, MN 55105. Registrations are due April 8. Go to tinyurl.com/gdBRIDGES324 to get the spring edition of the SWO Bridges newsletter.

Social Justice and Outreach

March's Campaign: Rice, O Church. How much rice can we collect at Gloria Dei before the end of this month? March is Foodshare Month. All month we'll be collecting as much rice as we can to support Neighborhood House's Francis Basket Food Market on West Seventh Street. Rice is a staple food for many of the customers shopping there. It's an efficient time to collect food as Minnesota Foodshare matches a portion of each item or dollar donated. Financial donations are the most effective way to contribute as Neighborhood House can then buy rice in bulk at much lower government commodity prices. Francis Basket is the recipient of this month's Second Offering. Financial contributions can be made at tinyurl.com/gdFOOD24 or by dropping a check off in the office or offering plate. How are we doing so far? We've received 245 pounds of rice which has been delivered to Francis Basket. So far we've collected \$2,204 in money donations, which through government bulk pricing can buy 6,297 pounds of rice. That's 3.2 tons and is the average weight of a female African forest elephant. How much more can we get? Bring rice to worship on Sunday and bring it forward to the basket by the font during the offering collection. Remember, it's not a competition; hungry neighbors are the real winners.

Hear About 2025 Civil Rights Tour. Would you be interested in joining a Gloria Dei group going on a Civil Rights Tour to sites in the southern U.S. in April 2025? There will be an information meeting regarding the trip on Sunday, April 21, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 203. The eight-day tour will visit historical sites in Montgomery, Birmingham, Selma and Memphis. It will be eight days long, with the exact date to be decided soon. If you have questions email Will Nordmark at willnordmark@gmail.com.

Learn about Mendota Dakota Through Book Event. Gloria Dei's Racial Justice Committee is offering several opportunities to connect with our Mendota Dakota partners in upcoming weeks. Here are things that you can do:

- **Read the Books** from the Gloria Dei Library's Mendota collection, including: *Stolen Culture, Traditions, and Heritage: Good Thunder Woman -- Wakiya Wasta Win in Dakota* by Sharon Lennartson; *Mendota Dakota: Stories of Land & Leadership* edited by Dr. Mike Klein; *Mendota Dakota: Erasure and Recognition* edited by Mike Klein with commentary by Dr. Chris Mato Nunpa. These collections of stories told by Mendota Dakota families will introduce you to the history and deep heritage of these close neighbors.
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- **Meet the Authors** at Sunday Forum on April 14 at 9:30 a.m. Sharon Lennartson, Chairwoman of the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community (MMDTC) and Dr. Mike Klein, Professor from University of St. Thomas. Sharon will share information about the community and how we can be in relationship. Dr. Klein, with his UST students, has written two books about the MMDTC and will share their involvement with the community. We will hear from Karen Lansing, Gloria Dei's new liaison with the MMDTC. Our own Dr. Deanna Thompson will moderate the discussion.
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- **Meet For a Book Talk** on Wednesday, May 1, from 7 to 8 p.m. Hosted by the Racial Justice Committee and led by Dr. Deanna Thompson, we will consider how we at Gloria Dei might respond as a community to what we are learning.

Upcoming Beacon Events. Gloria Dei's Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative team has a pair of events happening in the coming weeks.

- **Rent is Due: Day of Action** – Wednesday, 8:30 - 9 a.m. Beacon gathers the first Wednesday of every month, working to create rental assistance for all through *Bring it Home, Minnesota*, and creating new policies to make more deeply affordable supportive housing available. During the 30-minute virtual meeting, you will hear from special guests or

elected officials, and be given concrete actions to take. Register and get the Zoom link at tinyurl.com/gdRENTDUE43.

- **Book Discussion** – Join the Gloria Dei Beacon Team in Fellowship Hall on each Thursday in April from 7-8 p.m. for a book discussion of *Poverty, By America* by Dr. Matthew Desmond. Each session will focus on three chapters. This event is open to members, friends of the congregation and the Beacon Collaborative (basically anyone who has an interest in the topic.) Attendance will be limited so watch this space for registration information in the coming week. The Gloria Dei library has three copies have available to borrow. *Poverty, by America* can also be found at local libraries and bookstores.

Hey, didn't there used to be a garbage can here?

Gloria Dei's Caring for Creation Team is making changes to how we collect the waste generated in our building, thanks to a grant from Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy. You will notice we have already made some changes. We are testing out collection zones in the building and will be purchasing more metal waste receptacles that will standardize collection by always offering containers for organics, recycling and trash. Centralizing and standardizing waste bins in highly visible and accessible areas helps users make better sorting choices. That helps reduce contamination and divert the amount of trash we send to the Newport incinerator. This means you won't find a waste receptacle in every room anymore. This change also encourages users to get up and move their bodies. So many benefits! We appreciate your patience as we pivot to better living out our values and truly care for our creation!

Ways to Engage Worship In addition to the activities noted above, join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways to assist in worship on Sunday.

- **Altar Care Team** prepares the altar paraments and along with setting up and cleaning for communion service. Email Amy Hinrichs at amyldhinrichs@gmail.com with questions.
- **Assisting Minister** helps lead worship with pastors, shares prayers and serves communion. Email Mark Christianson (mchristi314@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Communion Assistants** distribute bread, wine and grape juice during worship. Email Mark Christianson (mchristi314@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Hospitality Team** welcomes people to worship, collects offerings, assists with seating needs and ensure that worship runs smoothly. Email Mark Christianson (mchristi314@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Lector** reads Old and New Testament lessons during worship. Email Mark Christianson (mchristi314@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Crucifer** carries the cross in worship processions. Email Mark Christianson (mchristi314@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Sacristan** assists with the logistics of worship and guides acolytes. Email Mark Christianson (mchristi314@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Adult & Children's Choirs** provide special music for worship services with rehearsals on Wednesdays. Email Music Director Tim Strand at tstrand@gloriadeistpaul.org.
- **Tech Crew** produces the weekly YouTube livestream. Email Tadhg Ferris Wayne at WorshipTech@gloriadeistpaul.org.

Next week: More ways to Assist with Outreach.
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/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 *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
Pastor Jodi Houge, Associate Pastor
Kyrstin Schwartz, Children's Ministry Director
Ashley Greenwood, Deacon of Youth and Family
Faith Formation
Timothy Strand, Music Director
Dennis Friesen-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

Contact Us

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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).