



**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 - April 14, 2024

Faith Formation

Sunday Forum: Introducing Our Dakota Partners. Over the past couple of years Gloria Dei's relationships with indigenous tribes have expanded. Today we'll get to know some key leaders. Sharon Lennartson, chairwoman of the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community (MMDTC), and Dr. Mike Klein, professor from University of St. Thomas, members of our new Mendota Dakota partnership, will share information about the community and how we can be in relationship. Karen Lansing, Gloria Dei's new liaison with the MMDTC, will describe this new partnership. Dr. Deanna Thompson will moderate the discussion.

Next week at Sunday Forum: Come support and celebrate our 10th graders in the Gathering Place between services on the day they affirm their baptism in the rite of Confirmation. Tenth graders will be displaying their Credo projects, describing their faith in unique and interactive ways. This is a wonderful chance to personally meet our confirmands, review their projects, and share your encouragement and congratulations with them as they take this next step in their baptismal journey.

Support Youth Programs with Flowers. Purchase a 12-inch hanging flower basket and support the youth programs of Gloria Dei. Each basket will have

eight petunias, including red, blue, white and an array of colors. Hanging baskets will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, May 1. Each basket is \$35 with all proceeds, thanks to a donation from a generous member, supporting our youth programs, including trips to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July and a Duluth mission/adventure Trip in August. We appreciate your support and are so happy to share these beautiful plants with you! As a special offer, you can also 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.

Rolls and Lids Needed. The Caring for Creation team is leading an upcoming Sunday School for Water Tower students. They are asking people to save and donate their toilet paper rolls and jug/spice jar-sized lids. Drop them off any time in the box by Kyrstin Schwartz's office. We will collect them now through May 15.

Duluth Youth Trip Deadline is May 1. We'll need ten 6-12th grade youth to sign up for our Duluth youth trip by Wednesday, May 1. The trip runs Wednesday-Saturday, July 31-August 3, and will be a mission/adventure trip that will

include service work, rock climbing, white-water rafting and a Christian music festival! This will be an amazing trip, and we can help with cost as needed. The fee is currently \$225, with scholarships available. Contact Ashley with any questions or register your student yet this month. Register at tinyurl.com/gdDULUTH24.

Study on Acts Meets Wednesdays. Join us on Wednesday evenings to explore the New Testament book of Acts, 6-7 p.m. in the Gathering Place, through May 22. A light lunch of sandwiches will be served at 5:30 p.m. for those interested in eating before the Bible study. We read from this book during the season of Easter, which tells of the courageous and inspirational work of the early church. Why do we tell these stories? How do they speak to us today? This is a one-hour Bible study with others who are interested in deeper reflection on how scripture touches our lives. No former expertise or knowledge needed. Bring a Bible or use one here at church. Join others for reflection, exploration, and growth. Questions? Contact Baya Clare at bayathread@gmail.com.

Save the Date for River Cruise. Join us 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 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. Go to tinyurl.com/gdRIVERBOAT24 to register and make payment.

Social Justice and Outreach

Second Offering Today. April's Second Offering will be collected during today's services and supports Lutheran Social Services' Metro Homeless Youth Program. It offers a continuum of holistic services to runaway, homeless and street-dependent youth in the Twin Cities area. It's estimated that 3,000 youth

experience homelessness on any given night in the Twin Cities area. Youth in Minneapolis and St. Paul who are at risk or experiencing homelessness can find non-judgmental support and assistance through shelter, outreach and transitional support. Gloria Dei's in-service collection will be taken today. Any time before the end of the month, you can also give online at tinyurl.com/gdLSSTEENS or drop off a check at the church office or offering plate with "second offering" in the memo line.

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 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 Events. 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.
- **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.

Join the Beacon Book Discussion. Gloria Dei's Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative team hosts a weekly book group in Fellowship Hall each Thursday in April from 7-8 p.m., discussing *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. Registration is required. Email revdfulton@comcast.net with name(s) and number attending. There is a limit of 100 participants. The only cost may be the purchase of the book. A few copies of *Poverty, By America* are available in the Gloria Dei library for two-week checkout. Softcover copies of *Poverty, By America* may be purchased from church library "at cost" while supply lasts.

LSS Youth Programs Fundraiser. Lutheran Social Service of MN (LSS) Youth & Young Adult Services is proud to serve more than 5,500 individuals and families every year. We invite you to join us at the 2024 Benefit for Youth as we celebrate all the ways that together, we are Reaching Further to support youth and families with the resources they need to live full and abundant lives. Twin Cities Benefit for Youth: Tuesday, May 7, 5:30 p.m., Quincy Hall in Minneapolis. Register at tinyurl.com/gdLSSFUNDS24 or call the LSS Events Team at 651-432-4731.

Documentary on Racism is April 27. All are invited to a free and screening of the award-winning documentary, "A Binding Truth," on Saturday, April 27, beginning at 1 p.m. hosted by Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in Plymouth, 12235 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth. The film received rave reviews in this year's Independent Film Festivals. Director/Producer Louise Woehrle, of Edina-based Whirlygig Productions, will join us to host a Q & A session immediately following. The film tells the tale of one of North Carolina's most volatile civil rights cases, played out at the explosive intersection of high school football and race. See the preview at tinyurl.com/gdBINDINGTRUTH.

Stewardship and Giving

You Can Contribute Donut Holes. 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. You can sign up and pay for donut holes at tinyurl.com/gdHOLES24. 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."

Community

Assist with Tests. Highland Park Senior High School is putting out the call for volunteers to help proctor International Baccalaureate Diploma Program exams. Each year, the school administrators tests to between 250-300 students, and volunteers are needed to help support the endeavor. The exams run from April 25 to May 17, and there are slots for half days or full days. If you can volunteer for one (or more; even better!) slots, register at tinyurl.com/gdHPSHTESTS. Know someone who might be interested in doing this as well? Let them know.

Ways to Engage with Faith Formation

In addition to the activities noted above, join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways to engage in Faith Formation on Sunday.

- **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. Contact email stendahl1817@gmail.com.
- **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 ashley@gloriadeistpaul.org to learn more.

- **Good News 4U Bible Study** meets 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., to discuss 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 with Health and Healing. 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/RoomRequestGDLG. 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 Listening 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

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).