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 - July 7, 2024

Worship and Music & Art

Bread of Life Sundays. Jesus calls himself the bread of life, nourishing our bodies and spirits with all for which we hunger and sending us out to feed our neighbors. For five Sundays, we will hear from John 6, which gives us a chance to explore the bread of life theme and have some fun. Plan now to bring bread for one of the four upcoming coffee hours after either of our worship services. Bake or purchase the bread of your choice and help us fill our community with joy. What will you bring? Rye, whole wheat, gluten free, sweet bread, cinnamon rolls, zucchini bread? See which week is your chance. Bring bread as individual servings and add to the bread table in the Gathering Place. What Sunday should you bring your favored bread? If your last name starts with:

- A-F: July 28
- G-L: August 4
- M-R: August 11
- S-Z: August 18

Watch for something special on August 25.

Faith Formation

Wednesday Coffee with Pastors. Gloria Dei pastors will be available to sip coffee or another summer beverage with you every Wednesday at 2 p.m. this summer at J&S Bean Factory, 1518 Randolph Ave. The focus is to connect with one another. Come, tell stories, meet some new folks, ask the pastors all your hard questions.

Young Adults Cookout on July 9. Join other young adults from Gloria Dei for hot dogs and brats on Tuesday, July 9, from 6-8 p.m. We will gather at the home of Josh and Christa Fangmeier, 1188 Juno Ave. Veggie options will also be provided, and feel free to bring something to share. The Gloria Dei young adults group meets the second Tuesday of every month. Email Chloe at ahlf.chloe@gmail.com for more info.

Let’s Go Twins. Let's share in fellowship and have fun cheering on the Minnesota Twins on group outings this summer. We will attend a Twins game on Saturday, August 10, at 6:10 p.m. Tickets are $48. Deadline to register is tomorrow. Transportation isn't provided, but we can help organize carpools if needed. Get Twins tickets at tinyurl.com/gdTWINS24.
**We’re Looking for a Cook.** Wednesday nights during the program year are a wonderful time for all generations of the Gloria Dei community to gather and socialize. A key piece of that gathering is the evening meal that’s served 5:45-6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We’re looking for a cook who has a heart for bringing people together around good and nutritious food. Job duties include planning menus; preparing and serving the meals; arranging for purchase and delivery of necessary food and paper products; and coordinating with administrator regarding costs and other necessary items. The position averages 5-10 hours per week, with an hourly wage. Meals are served September through April. Experience requirements are previous food preparation work within a similarly sized organization and availability during meal times. Contact Church Finance and Administration Director Beverly Sargent to apply at beverly@gloriadeistpaul.org.

**Faith and Civic Engagement Virtual Presentations.** Lutherans trust that the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together even over complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting and voting on major issues? Leading ethicists and theologians of the ELCA will be sharing insights on a number of important topics over the next several months, and we’re invited to listen in as they reflect. Gloria Dei has registered as a congregation giving us online access to any of the upcoming discussions, at 6-7:30 p.m. Watch for details in the next few weeks with links on how to log on.
- **Aug. 27** — Corporate Social Responsibility
- **Sept. 10** — Abortion
- **Oct. 8** — Earth’s Climate Crisis
- **Oct. 22** — Free in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture

Send Pastor Lois prlois@gloriadeistpaul.org a request for sign-in information to join these meetings online. Video recordings will also be available later online if you’re not available to connect during the live event.

**Social Justice and Outreach**

**July’s Second Offering** will go to ISAIAH, a community organizing group that works with people of faith across Minnesota to advocate for racial and economic justice. The in-service offering will be collected next Sunday, July 14, but you can give online any time or drop a check in the offering plate with "Second Offering" written on the memo line.

**Two Summer Food Packing Events.** Anyone age 5 and older is invited to serve together with others from Gloria Dei at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan this summer. We will help pack food bags that will be shipped all around the world. Children should be accompanied by an adult. This event is free, but consider bringing a donation for Feed My Starving Children. You can help pay for a child to eat for a year for $88. The two packing events are:
- **Tuesday, July 30 from noon-1:45 p.m.**
  Gloria Dei staff members will join in at this pack.
- **Monday, August 19 from 5-6:30 p.m.**
  Register for either event at tinyurl.com/gdFMSC24.

**Health and Healing**

**Blood Drive is July 22.** The next Red Cross Circle of Faith blood drive at Gloria Dei is coming soon. The need for blood is always critical. Each donation can help save up to three people. Both donors and volunteers are needed. To make a blood donation appointment go to redcrossblood.org to sign up via chat or online or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. Want to help out? Volunteers greet donors, help them sign in and serve refreshments. If you are interested in volunteering from 11:30-3:00 or 3:00-6:30 p.m., contact Parish Nurse Jill Stewart nurse@gloriadeistpaul.org or 651-699-1378 ext. 3031.

**Summer Fitness: Stretching for More Flexibility.** Without some stretching, muscles, tendons and ligaments become shorter and tighter. This makes them prone to injury. Gentle stretching and yoga can maintain range of motion.
and protect muscles and joints. You can just stretch your body periodically. This week’s Olympic host city is Antwerp (1920), where the 5-ringed Olympic flag made its debut. The USA won 73 medals and Sweden won 52. Swedish shooter 72-year-old Oscar Swahn won the silver medal in the running deer double-shot team event, making him the oldest medalist ever. To report minutes, steps, or to join, contact parish nurse Jill Stewart, nurse@gloriadeistpaul.org or 651-699-1378 ext. 3031.

**Stewardship and Giving**

**Fresh Altar Flowers are a Click Away.** We appreciate everyone who provides altar flowers to beautify our Sunday worship. Purchasing flowers online is quick and easy. They can be purchased for $65. Go to tinyurl.com/gdFLOWERS24 and follow the instructions to order flowers for a specific week to commemorate a special occasion or just to brighten worship. And you're always welcome to stop by the church office to make arrangements in person, too.

**Ways to Engage in Facilities and Administration**

In addition to the activities noted above, join Gloria Dei friends in one of these other ways be involved in Facilities and Administration.

- **Facilities Committee** meets the fourth Monday of each month. For more info email Alan Howell at alan.howell@mspmac.org.
- **Art Committee** prepares art shows in the Gallery and also maintains and rotates displays of art in other parts of the church. Contact Liz Knutson at lizknutson80@gmail.com or Mona Ahlf at mona.ahlf@yahoo.com.
- **Landscape Gardening Team** maintains the foundation plantings and perennial gardens on the grounds. Contact Bruce Agneberg at agnebergb48@gmail.com.
- **Shared Ministry Committee** meets the third Thursday of the month to coordinate gift, passions and interests inventories shared with congregation members to connect to volunteer opportunities. Contact Carol Engel at cjengel626@comcast.net.

**Next week: More ways to help with Worship.**

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.
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.

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).