

Sunday Holy Communion Worship

8:15 a.m. in person

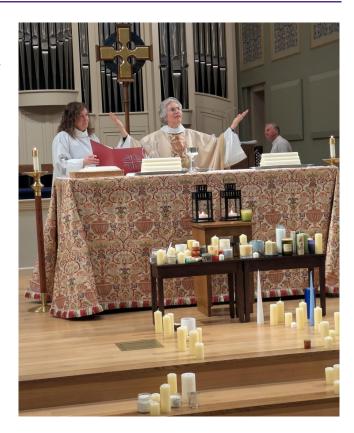
10:45 a.m. in person and live online broadcast (Beginning May 18: 10:00 am in person and live online broadcast)

May 2025

My Life Flows On in Endless Song....

My dear friends in Christ,

For 26 years, we have worked alongside each other, caring, healing and welcoming a world in need of God's grace and goodness. I am so honored to have been one of your pastors. Your care for me and my family over the years has been a constant gift and a tremendous blessing. I sensed God showering us with kindness as we walked from cradle to grave, through illness and transition, at celebrations and meetings, in confirmation classes, bible studies, book groups, hospital rooms, and premarital sessions, at the font, at the table, around God's word, all of it punctuated by laughter, tears, surprises and prayer.



Thank you.

Retiring is both a blessing and a sorrow. I'm very excited to open a new chapter in my life, with chances for rest, travel, play, discovery, gardening, and relaxing. My husband retired last November, and our grown children live out of state. We are looking forward to this adventure together.

But leaving Gloria Dei and parish ministry after these decades of service will be strange and sad, too. I've loved serving as a pastor, much more than I ever predicted. It's been a wonderful career path for me, and a remarkably happy way to use the gifts God has given me. I have been surrounded by wonderful staff and colleagues, and it will be odd to no longer be needed in the day-to-day operation of the congregation.

I will be keeping a distance for some time. I need to let go of these responsibilities, interests, and involvement to fully experience retirement. I'm choosing to not even connect socially with you for a while, recognizing that though I have developed friendships with so many of you over these years, I have primarily known you as pastor, and that role will not continue. The general recommendation for retiring pastors is to disconnect for at least a year, both in person and on social media. I intend to honor that expectation. Thank you for letting me go.

We all know that God is good, and God's love connects us all to each other without any effort on our part. I will still be part of the church universal, and will continue to share the same values and hopes for the world that shape Gloria Dei's mission. Please pray for me, and I'll pray for you and the new staff that you will welcome. I'm confident they will serve with grace and goodness, just as I've had the chance to do.

I'm very excited to celebrate with you on <u>Sunday, May 18</u>, and look forward to greeting many of you there. Thank you again, over and over again, for the blessing of these years.

How can I keep from singing?

In Christ,

Pastor Lois Pallmeyer

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 651-699-1378 | Email | Website

Gloria Dei is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Call our phone number above to reach staff. Select option "2" for the on-call pastor.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church | 700 S. Snelling Avenue | Saint Paul, MN 55116 US

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