

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 19, 2025

9:30 AM



130 S. Lone Oak Dr. Leesburg, FL 34748

Email: gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com **Phone:** 352-787-3223



We welcome all who worship with us. If you are a guest, we are especially glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Our worship is always enhanced by new faces and voices. If you are already a part of our church family, welcome home.

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ’s encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ’s table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

Participating in Today’s Service:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Pastor: | Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara |
| Music Director: | Len Cremisio |
| Worship Media Team: | Susan Johnson, Irv Johnson |
| Assistant Ministers | |
| Reader: | Arlene Kelly |
| Crucifer: | James Menchaca |
| Assisting Minister: | Ellen Clement |
| Ushers: | Crystal Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirkpatrick, John Kelly, Craig Carlson |

Prelude:

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN: ELW 790 "Day by Day"

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE: ELW pg. 184 “Kyrie Eleison”

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

*For peace in the world, for the health of the Church,
for the unity of all; for this holy house,
for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.*

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

*That we may live out your impassioned response to the
hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.*

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

*For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family; for life and for love,
for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.*

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

*For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in
the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls
with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.*

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW pg.187 “This is the Feast”

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

*Worthy is Christ, the lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to
be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and
honor, blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of
vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.*

Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and

join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor,

glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 121



Psalm 121:2
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹ I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?
- ² **My help comes | from the LORD,**
the maker of heav- | en and earth.
- ³ The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keep- | er of Israel**

will neither slumber nor sleep; R

⁵ the LORD watches over you;

the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and
your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore. R**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 519 "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" (Verse 1)

*1 Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.*

*Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.*

Refrain

*Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!*

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

The holy gospel according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 519 "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" (Verse 2)

*2 They who have ears to hear the message,
they who have ears, now let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word.*

Refrain

*Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!*

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ACS 1005 “Ask the Complicated Questions”

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ’s peace, and may say,
“Peace be with you,” or similar words.
The assembly is seated.*

MEAL

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. A second collection is received today for our hunger ministry.

Deuteronomy 16:17

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord, your God, which he has given you.

OFFERTORY: WOV 761 “Now We Offer” *(Verse 1-2 see insert)*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads in prayer. Please stand at the invitation to pray:

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: ELW pg. 190 “Holy, holy, holy”

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
Hosana, hosana, hosana in the highest
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosana, hosana, hosana in the highest.*

THANSKIVING AT THE TABLE

The Presiding minister leads the Eucharistic Prayer

After the Words of Institution:

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim
the Lord’s death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, all say:

... Now and forever. **Amen.**

***THE LORDS PRAYER (Spoken)**

(Those who wish may hold hands as a sign of Christian unity).

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW pg. 191 "Lamb of God"

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.*

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All Baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Those who do not wish to
commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing (fold your arms
over your chest).*

The Body is available as bread or gluten-free Host.

*The Blood is available as wine (large chalices) or non.-
alcoholic juice (small chalice).*

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The appropriate response is:

Amen.

During the distribution, please pray silently or join in singing.

HYMN: ELW 474 “Bread of Life from Heaven”
CHOIR “Song of Hope”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please remain seated:

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 537 “On Our Way Rejoicing”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

***The end of Worship –
The beginning of Christian Ministry.***

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Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara	c. 352-249-8533
Evelyn Rollins, Administrator	c. 352-787-3223
Leonard Cremisio, Music Director	c. 352-638-3695

Altar Care: Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick,
Craig Carlson

Post Worship Sec.: 9:30 a.m Janet Braun

Counters: Arlene Kelly, Lillian Ostrander

Greeters: 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship: Fall Stewardship

Communion Wine: For September is given to the Glory of God.

Altar Flowers: Dianne and Dennis Marcotte in honor of their 25th Wedding anniversary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

Sun.	10/19	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship/ Hunger Offering
		11:00 a.m.	Measure What Matters
Mon.	10/20	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	10/21	11:00 a.m.	Fashion Show
Wed.	10/22	1:00 p.m.	Memorial Service for Barbara Goins
		4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	10/24	9:00 a.m.	LWR Quilting
		9:00 a.m.	Mary Martha Circle

Attendance for Sunday, October 12, 2025:

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Arthur Zerbel	October 23 rd
Mary Humphreys	October 24 th

ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis & Dianne Marcotte	October 23 rd	25yrs
Milton & Carolyn DeLong	October 24 th	24yrs

BIBLE STUDIES

Developing Disciples Bible Study will not be meeting until further notice.

Join us for our **weekly Zoom Bible Study** on **Monday evenings at 7:00 pm.** October 20th We start *The Nicene Creed* and we will use the book *Worshiped and Glorified: A Study of the Nicene Creed*. If you would like to participate, please email Pastor Lynn at pastorgdlclesburg@gmail.com or Evelyn Rollins at gloradeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com , and one of us will send you the link. **We look forward to studying with you!**

Interested in Leading a Bible Study? We are looking for individuals who feel called to lead a Bible Study group. If you have a passion for scripture and a desire to help others grow in their faith, we

encourage you to consider this opportunity. If you're interested or would like more information, please speak with Christine Carlson.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.....

We need **volunteers for Assisting Ministers, Crucifers and Readers!!!** If you would like to try it but need a little more information, please contact the church office. Thank you.



Help Host Our After-Worship Gatherings!

We're looking for volunteers to provide light refreshments—such as snacks, coffee, and juice—after worship on Sundays. It's a great way to extend our fellowship and hospitality. **If you'd like to help, please enter your name on the kitchen counter sign-up sheet or contact the church office.** Thank you!



Prayer List Update. Please take a moment to review the Prayer List located on the podium in the Gathering Hall. If you would like to add or remove a name from the list, please reach out to Christine or call the Church Office. **Your help in keeping our Prayer List current is greatly appreciated.**



Please join us after church on November 9th for a free presentation from Home Instead liaison Deborah. She will provide a short presentation regarding aging in place using home care vs home health care and explain the difference. Light refreshments will be provided. Please plan on attending.

WELCA- All Women invited!

Florida-Bahamas Synodical Women's Fall gathering:
"All God's Children" November 7-9 th 2025
Warren Willis United Methodist Conference Center

Fruitland Park. **Registration deadline October 10 th -**
Register at flwelca.com/2025 Fall gathering

Registration Forms can also be found on **Fellowship hall counter.**

Mark your Calendars.....

On **Sunday, November 2**, the Call Committee is having a Town Hall Meeting after the service and we hope that you will attend. You should have received a few days ago by email a cover letter from Call Committee Chair Kathleen Birdsall with two attachments. One attachment is the Ministry Site Profile that the Call Committee has worked on for almost six months describing our church and its members and also what we are looking for in a new pastor for our congregation. Along with the Ministry Site Profile is an attachment called Seven Reflections On Ministry and Context which we submitted to Synod with the Ministry Site Profile which tells a potential candidate even more about our congregation and its members. We hope that you will take the time to read these documents in October and come to the Town Hall on November 2.

All members of Gloria Dei are encouraged to attend the Town Hall after church to ask questions of the Call Committee about these two documents. We wanted this process and the work we have done to be as transparent as possible to keep our members informed. This transition time is a very important time in our church and we welcome your questions. We look forward to seeing and talking with you on November 2 after service.

Call Committee Members: Kathleen Birdsall, Richard Healy, Pat Bressler, Leone Goding, Christine Carlson, Bob Pierce, Linda Steege



Today, October 19th. Cards will be collected as part of the service. Please plan to stay for time of Fellowship after the service. Food for Fellowship paid for with Thrivent choice dollars.



