

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 21, 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.

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

Participating in Today's Service:

Pastor: Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara

Communion:

Music Director: Len Cremisio

Assistant Ministers

Reader: Arlene Kelly

Crucifer: James Menchaca

Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler

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 717 "Let Justice Flow like Streams"

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 vict'ry 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

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love
for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds
to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

- ⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵ saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 113 *(Read Responsively)*

- ¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.
² **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**
³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.
⁴ **The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens. R**
⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,
⁶ **but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**
⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,
⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**
⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

The holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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: ELW 716 “Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”

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: ELW 692 "We Are an Offering"

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.*

THANSGIVING 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). Communion will be via "intinction ONLY" dipping the Host into the Chalice.

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

HYMN: ELW 793 “Be Thou My Vision”

ELW 588 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

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 669 “Rise Up, O Saints of God”

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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Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
www.gloriadeielca.com
130 South Lone Oak Drive
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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	Rita Moritz
Counters:	Arlene Kelly Lillian Ostrander

Greeters:	9:30 a.m.
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Fellowship:

Communion Wine: For August is given to the Glory of God

Altar Flowers: From Richard and Debbie Cassem, for
our September Birthdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

Sun.	9/21	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship / Hunger Offering
Mon.	9/22	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	9/23	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Wed.	9/24	4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	9/26	9:00 a.m.	LWR Quilting
		9:00 a.m.	Mary Martha Circle

Attendance for Sunday, September 14, 2025: 58

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Dottsie Grins	September 23rd
Quiana Menchaca	September 25th
Crystal Kirkpatrick	September 26th

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** We are studying the Gospel of Luke. If you would like to participate, please email Pastor Lynn at pastorgdicleesburg@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!



There are Gloria Dei members of our congregation that would come to church if they had a way to get there. **We need volunteers for our "Rides to Church" program.** If you would like to get involved, **please call the church office at 352-787-3223.**



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.**



NOURISH TO FLOURISH

During the week of Sept 15 to 19th Florence at Leesburg Elementary was out of office. She is the only person who manages the food pantry. Last week she gave out extra food to last until she gets back next Monday. Please note that any food donated Sept 7th will be delivered on 9/22 or 9/23 when Florence is able to receive it. Thank you for helping to feed hungry children!



Save the Date!

Join us for our **Blessing of the Pets** on **Saturday, October 4, from 1:00–2:30 PM.** We will also be collecting donations of pet food, towels, and blankets to support local animal needs.