

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 12, 2026

9:30 AM



130 S. Lone Oak Dr. Leesburg, FL 34748

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



GLORIA DEI
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GATHERING IN CHRIST † SHARING HIS LOVE

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.

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

Participating in Today's Service:

Pastor: Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara

Music Director: Len Cremisio

After Worship Secretary: Janet Braun *(In order to assist the Pastor, if you need the Pastor to contact someone or address something)*

Assistant Ministers

Reader: Dianne Marcotte

Crucifer: James Menchaca

Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler

Ushers: Crystal Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirkpatrick, John Kelly, Craig Carlson

Prelude:

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP: ELW 752 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Pray"

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

In the name of † the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 384 "That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright"

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 151 Kyrie

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW 819 "Come, All You People"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 15:1-11, 19-21

- ¹ [Then] Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:
"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.
- ² The LORD is my strength and my might,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him;
my father's God, and I will exalt him.
- ³ The LORD is a warrior;
the LORD is his name.
- ⁴ Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea;
his elite officers were sunk in the Red Sea.
- ⁵ The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.
- ⁶ Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power—
your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy.
- ⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your
adversaries;
you sent out your fury; it consumed them like stubble.
- ⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up;
the floods stood up in a heap;
the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.
- ⁹ The enemy said, 'I will pursue; I will overtake;
I will divide the spoil; my desire shall have its fill of them.
I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.'
- ¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them;
they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in splendor, doing wonders?"

¹⁹ When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them:
"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 111

- ¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with ¹ my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the ¹ congregation.
- ² Great are your ¹ works, O LORD,
pondered by all who de- ¹ light in them.
- ³ Majesty and splendor ¹ mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- ¹ dures forever.
- ⁴ You cause your wonders to ¹ be remembered;
you are gracious and full ¹ of compassion.
- ⁵ You give food to ¹ those who fear you,
remembering forev- ¹ er your covenant.
- ⁶ You have shown your people the power ¹ of your works
in giving them the lands ¹ of the nations.
- ⁷ The works of your hands are faithful- ¹ ness and justice;
all of your pre- ¹ cepts are sure.
- ⁸ They stand fast forev- ¹ er and ever,
because they are done in ¹ truth and equity.
- ⁹ You sent redemption to your people and commanded your
cove- ¹ nant forever;
holy and awesome ¹ is your name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the begin- ¹ ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise
en- ¹ dures forever.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 172 “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and

Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 390 "The Risen Christ"

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, **the Father, the**

Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped

**and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BRIEF ORDER FOR HEALING

The congregation is seated

Introduction:

P: Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing

Prayer:

Mighty God, your Son Jesus brought healing and wholeness to all. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain. Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair. In your great mercy, hear us, O God. **Amen**

Laying on of Hands:

P: Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

You are invited to come forward if you wish to do so.

P: In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Spirit.

C AMEN.

When all have returned to their seats, the Assisting Minister continues

A: Let us Pray.

Living God, through the laying on of hands and anointing, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: AMEN.

Blessing:

P: Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in Heaven and on Earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God,
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.

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: ACS 1067 "For the Wholeness of the Earth"

(See insert)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

Merciful God,
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day
when we will hunger and thirst no more.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,
that goodness and mercy may follow us
and bless the world you love.
In the name of Jesus,
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 473 "Holy, Holy, Holy" *(Sing 3 times)*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The Presiding minister leads the Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed
one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
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. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW Page 208 Setting 10

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 635 "We Walk by Faith"

CHOIR: "Because He Lives"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please remain seated:

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 535 "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praise"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Voluntary

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

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Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

www.gloriadeielca.com

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Leesburg, Florida 34748

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

After Worship Sec.: 9:30 a.m Janet Braun *(In order to assist the Pastor, if you need the Pastor to contact someone or address something)*

Counters:

Linda Steege, Patricia Bressler

Greeters:

9:30 a.m.

Fellowship:

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

Altar Flowers: Given to the Glory of God

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR

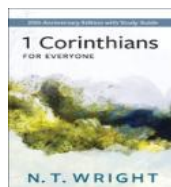
Sun.	4/12	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship/ Healing Service
Mon.	4/13	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	4/14	9:00 p.m.	Mary Martha Circle
		9:00 p.m.	LWR Quilting
		9:30 a.m.	Strategic Planning Meeting
		10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Wed.	4/15	4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

NEXT WEEKS CALENDAR

Sun.	4/19	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship Hunger Offering
Mon.	4/20	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	4/21	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Wed.	4/22	4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	4/24	9:00 a.m.	LWR Quilting
		9:00 a.m.	Mary Martha

Attendance for Sunday, April 5, 2026:

BIBLE STUDIES



Zoom Bible Study

There will be no Zoom Bible Study this Monday, April 6th. Regular sessions will resume the following week.

For the Monday Zoom Bible Study we are studying *1 Corinthians for Everyone*, by NT Wright. We meet **Every Monday at 7pm**. Contact the church office for the Zoom meeting link.

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!

Inaugural Spring Concert - I Hear America Singing!!

May 9th 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Lake Community Arts

3700 S. Hwy 27

Clermont, FL 34711

Experience an unforgettable evening of music at Lake Community Arts' inaugural spring concert, "I Hear America Singing!" This celebration of American music will feature the 100+ voice Lake Community Choir, the inspiring young musicians of Children Sing!, and more. From uplifting folk songs and spirituals to moving patriotic tunes, the program highlights the rich spirit and diverse sound of America's musical heritage. Join us for a thrilling night of music, community, and celebration you won't want to miss!

For more information contact CJ at legacyhippo@gmail.com

If you rather purchase with cash or in person, visit the Clermont Performing Arts Center via the side (south) door, at the box office down the main hall on the left.



Articles for the May Glorion are due by April 22nd Getting everything in on time helps us stay on track to review and publish the newsletter by **Friday, May 1st**. Thanks so much for your cooperation and timely submissions!

