

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 16, 2026

9:30 AM



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.

130 S. Lone Oak Dr. Leesburg, FL 34748

Email: gloriadeilutheranleesburg@gmail.com

Phone: 352-787-3223

Participating in Today's Service:

Pastor: Reverend Tony VanCura, Pastor

Music Director: Len Cremisio

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

Assistant Ministers

Reader: Linda Hide

Crucifer: Leone Goding

Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler

Ushers: Crystal Kirkpatrick
Byron Kirkpatrick
John Kelly
Craig Carlson

GATHERING HYMN:

ELW 886 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

APOSTOLIC 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. 138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

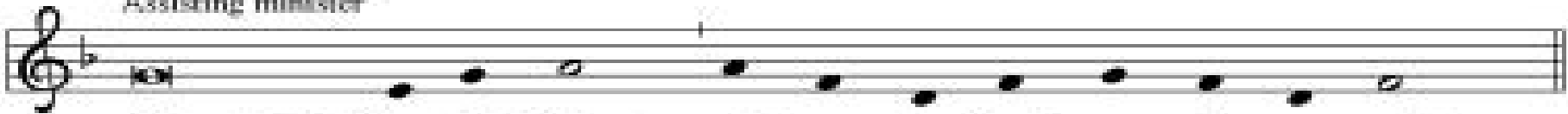
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

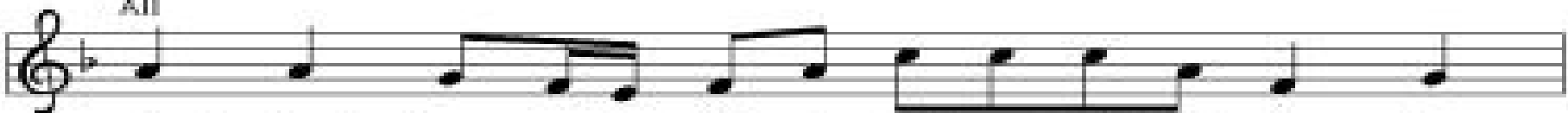
HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW pg. 139

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

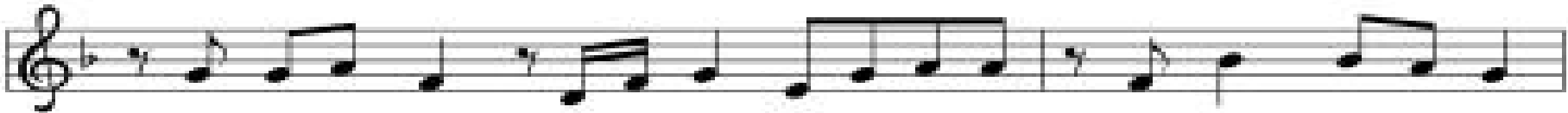
All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



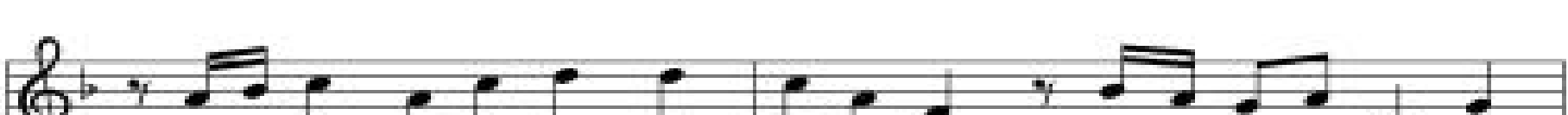
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you; **And also with you. Let us pray:**

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— ⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 67

Read responsively, the congregation speaks the bold lines.

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

**²Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide
all the nations on earth.**

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**⁶The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

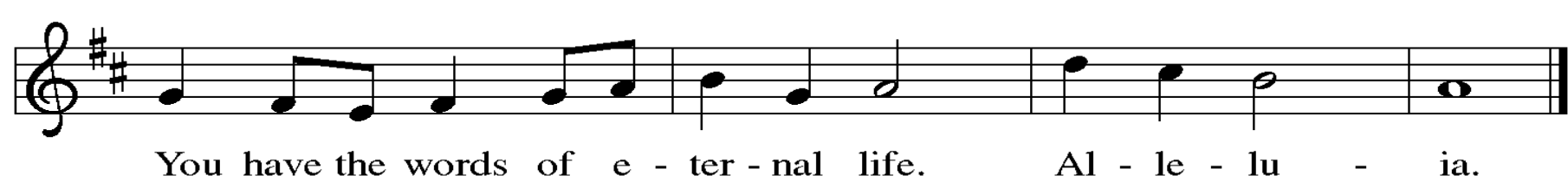
²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord; **thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 151 “Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go”



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:[10-20], 21-28

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

[¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to

us.” ¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all.

And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 595 “Jesus Loves Me!”

MESSAGE: Rev. Tony VanCura, Pastor

The assembly is seated.

SHARING OF THE 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.
Please remain standing.*

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

ANNIVERSARY OF AN INDIAN NAME - Pst. Tony **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: ELW 840 "Now Thank We All
Our God" (vs. 1)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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. 144 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The Presiding minister leads the Eucharistic Prayer

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.

*THE LORDS PRAYER *(Spoken)*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

The banquet of our Lord is prepared and offered to
all. Taste and see the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW pg. 146 “Lamb of God”

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ELW 789 “Savior
Like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: ELW 840

“Now Thank We All Our God” *(vs. 2)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please remain standing:

Let us pray together. **We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the healing power
of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us
through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent
love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ
our Lord.**

Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you
His peace.

THREEFOLD AMEN *(SUNG)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SENDING HYMN: ELW 647 “Glorious Things
of You Are Spoken”**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

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Reverend Tony VanCura, Pastor pastorgdlclesburg@gmail.com
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.:**

Helga LaCava *(In order to assist the
Pastor, if you need the Pastor to contact someone or address something)*
- Counters:**

Arlene Kelly, Lillian Ostrander
- Greeters:**
- Fellowship:**

Dianne and Dennis Marcotte
Jeanne Talts, Vaike O’Grady
- Communion Wine:**

Given to the Glory of God.
- Altar Flowers:**

Given to the Glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	8/16	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service/ Hunger Offering
Mon.	8/17	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	8/18	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Thurs.	8/20		Office Closed
Fri.	8/21		Office Closed

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	8/23	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service
Mon.	8/24	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
			Office Closed
Tues.	8/25	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
			Office Closed
Fri.	8/28	9:00 a.m.	Quilting

Attendance for Sunday, August 9, 2026: 66

BIRTHDAYS

Janet Braun	August 16th
Karen Russell	August 22nd

BIBLE STUDIES

Zoom Bible Study

For the Monday Zoom Bible Study, we are studying a variety of topics. 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.



If you would like to join Gloria Dei Church, please see Pastor Tony after our 9:30 Sunday service. You can also give him a call at 407-765-2822.



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.

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 contact Marie Davids via email at mewdean@live.com.** Thank you!



Missed the Gloria Dei Video Presentation? Watch It Online!

Last Sunday everyone got to see the new Gloria Dei Video/slide presentation. In case you missed it or would like to see it again or invite someone else to view it, there is a link to the video posted on the homepage of our website for your use.

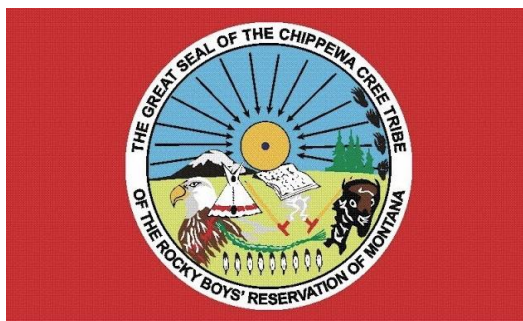


Gluten-Free Communion Wafers Available

We are pleased to offer **gluten-free communion wafers** for anyone who needs or prefers them.

If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer during Holy Communion, simply let **Pastor Tony** know before the service begins. He will be happy to make sure one is available for you.

Our hope is that everyone can fully participate in the Lord's Supper, and we are grateful to be able to offer this option to our church family.



A Special Celebration today, August 16th

Today, we will celebrate the name that was given to Pastor Tony by the Chippewa Cree community during his cross-cultural experience at the Rocky Boy Reservation in Montana while completing a seminary requirement.

This special celebration honors the promise and responsibility associated with the name he received and serves as a reminder of his enduring connection with the Chippewa Cree community. Please join us as we recognize this meaningful part of Pastor's ministry and the relationships that continue to enrich his faith and service.



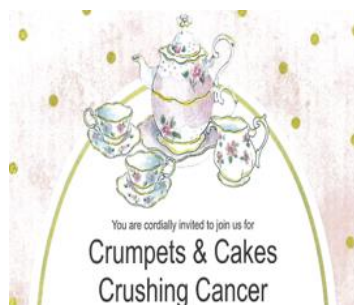
WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO COME AND JOIN THE CHOIR!

*Rehearsals will begin on **Tuesday, September 15th** starting at **4:30pm.***

You do not need to attend every rehearsal as all our music is available online. We would Love for you to join us.

Whether you're an experienced singer or just someone who loves music, there's a place for you. Our choir is more than just voices' it's a welcoming community where people come together to share in the joy of singing and witness the power of sung prayer.

Please speak to Len or any choir member for more information!



Date: Saturday, October 3, 2026

Time: 11 am – 3 pm

Location: First Presbyterian Church of Leesburg
200 Lone Oak Drive Leesburg, FL

\$10 Ticket Includes: Lunch, a lively fashion show, empowering awareness resources, and plenty of surprises. Let's crush cancer one cup, one conversation, and one connection at a time.



Stay in Touch with Sandy Kolb

Sandy Kolb has recently moved up north to be closer to her family. She would love to stay connected with her Gloria Dei church family, and you are welcome to send her a note or card at her new address:

Sandy Kolb

Meadowview at The Wartburg

120 Wartburg Place - Room 120

Mt. Vernon, NY 10552

We know that receiving a card or note from a familiar face at Gloria Dei would mean a lot to her.

Please join us in keeping her in our thoughts and prayers as she settles into her new home.



🌴 **Evelyn Is Taking a Little Vacation!** ☀️

The Church Office will be **closed Thursday, August 20 through Monday, August 25**, while Evelyn takes a little time away to relax, recharge, and enjoy some well-deserved vacation time!

The office will reopen on **Tuesday, August 26**, and Evelyn will be back, refreshed and ready to go! Thank you for your understanding.