

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 18, 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: 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: Leone Goding

Assisting Minister: Vaike O'Grady

Ushers: Byron Kirkpatrick
Ritch Cassem
John Kelly
Craig Carlson

GATHERING HYMN:

ELW 685 "Take My Life, That I May Be"

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.

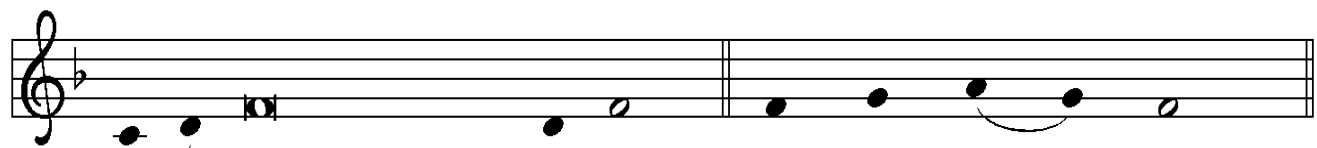
Most merciful God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold 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.

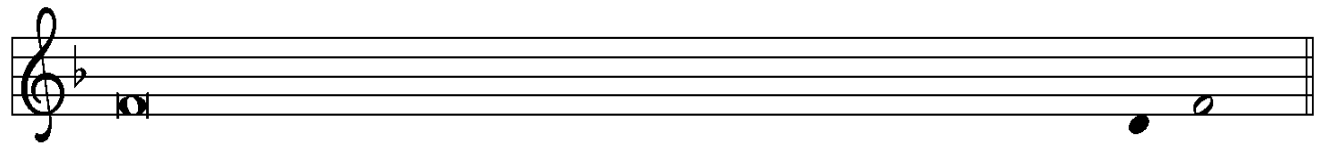
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

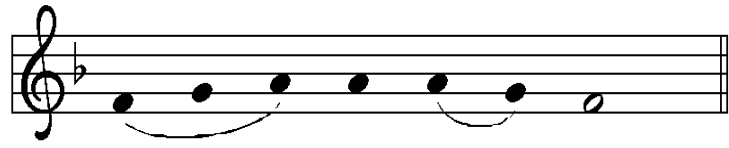
KYRIE. P. 138



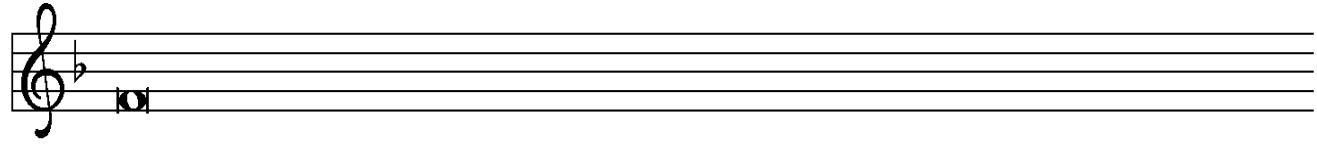
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



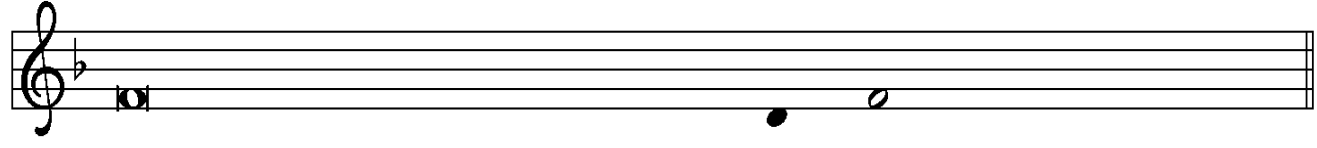
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



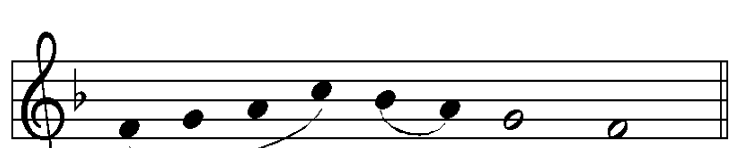
Lord, have mer - cy.



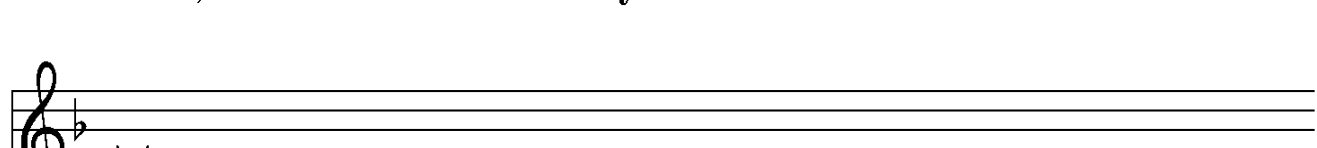
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



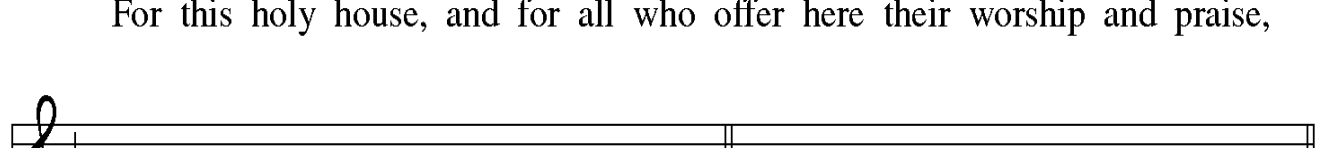
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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 P. 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,



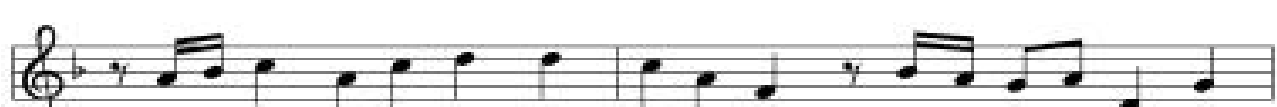
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



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:

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you
do not know me,

⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]



Psalm 96:7

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- ¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
- ³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods. R**
- ⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the
LORD. R**
- ⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- ¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it
cannot be moved will judge the peoples with
equity."**
- ¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field
be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹²**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy**

at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

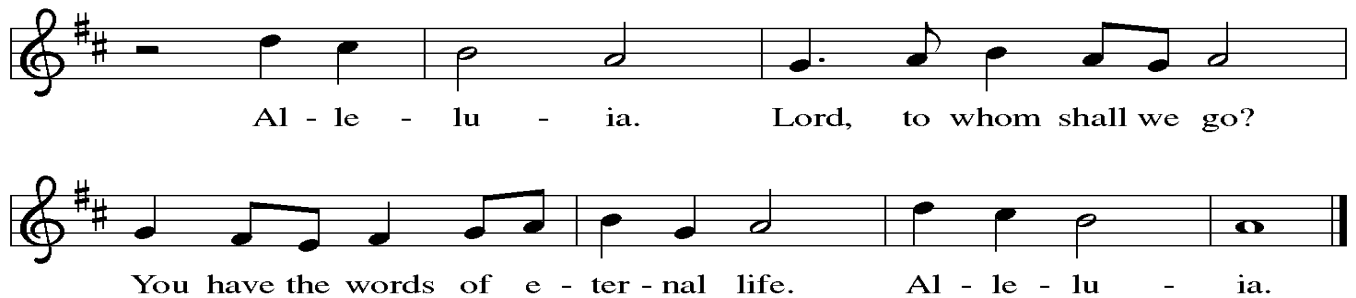
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

ELW 151 "Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go"



GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel concludes:

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

ELW 623 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for 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.

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 184 "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

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"



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 LORD'S PRAYER** *(Spoken)*

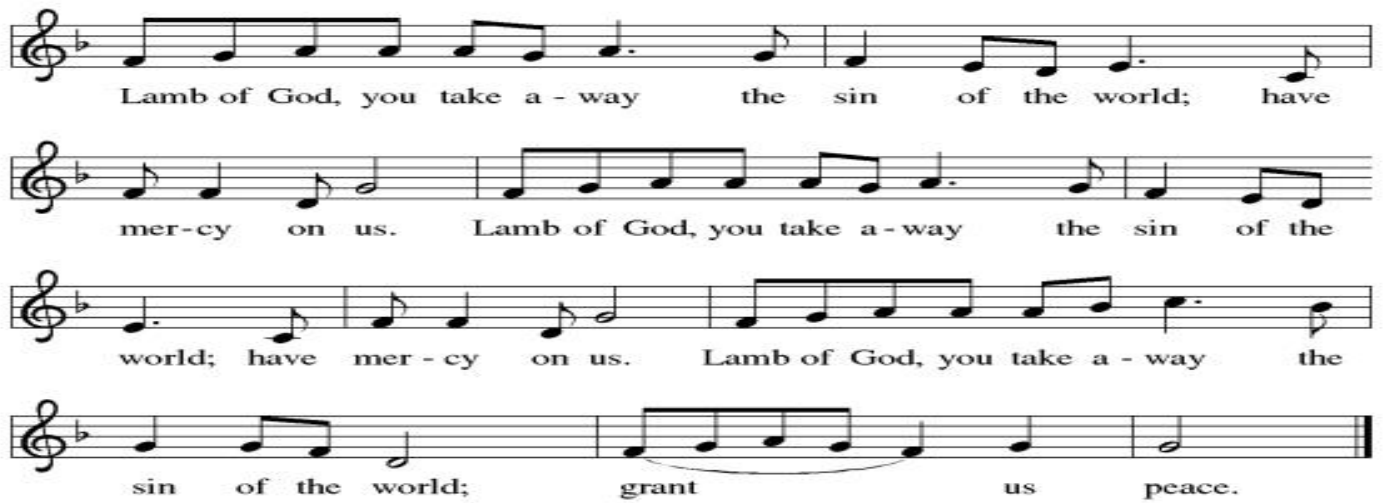
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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"



DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

ELW 480 "O Bread of Life From heaven"
Choir Anthem "Love Grows Here"

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION:

Communion is open to all. We offer wine in individual glasses, followed by the Common Cup for those who prefer this tradition. The center ring of the tray contains white grape juice for those who prefer juice instead of wine. Gluten-free wafers are also available to anyone who requires or prefers them.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE:

ELW 207 "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"

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 705 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
www.gloriadeielca.com
130 South Lone Oak Drive
Leesburg, Florida 34748

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

Counters: Arlene Kelly
Lillian Ostrander

Greeters:

Fellowship:

Communion Wine: Given to the Glory of God.

Altar Flowers: Given to the Glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	10/18	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service/ Hunger Offering
Mon.	10/19	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	10/20	9:30 a.m.	Strategic Planning Mtg.
		10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		4:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	10/23	9:00 a.m.	Quilting

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	10/25	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service
Mon.	10/26	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	10/27	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		4:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Attendance for Sunday, October 11, 2026: 70

BIRTHDAY

Ritz Moritz	Oct. 18th
Art Zerbel	Oct. 23rd

ANNIVERSARY

Dianne and Dennis Marcotte	Oct. 10	26yrs
Carolyn and Milton DeLong	Oct. 22	25yrs

BIBLE STUDIES

Zoom Bible Study

Please join us on Monday Evenings at 7pm for a Bible Study that focuses on the Lectionary Texts in a structured format provided by the ELCA (Daily Discipleship). The meeting is hosted on Zoom and can be joined with **Meeting ID:8732742912 and the Password: 12345**
We look forward to gathering in Word and Spirit 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.



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 who would come to church if they had a way to get here. We need volunteers for our "Rides to Church" program. If you would like to get involved in this ministry, please call the church office at 352-787-3223.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.....

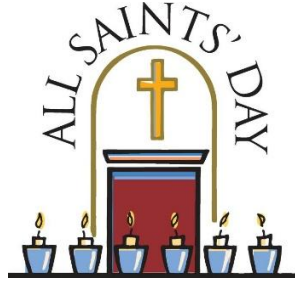


We need **volunteers for Assisting Ministers, Crucifers and Readers!!!** If you would like to try it but need a little more information, please contact the church office. Thank you.



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.**



All Saints Sunday – November 1

As we prepare for **All Saints Sunday on November 1**, we are also preparing to place crosses on our lawn in remembrance of our beloved who have entered into the Church Triumphant.

Our crosses are currently being constructed and will soon be adorned with **silk flowers and the names of those we remember**. We are seeking donations of silk flowers, which will be hot-glued to the crosses, as well as volunteers who would be willing to help decorate and prepare them.

Would you like a cross placed on our lawn in memory of a loved one? Please complete the **All Saints Cross insert, available from our ushers**, and return it to the church.

We will announce a date in the very near future when we will gather together to finish and adorn our **All Saints Crosses**.

Thank you for helping us create this beautiful and meaningful tribute to those we love and remember.



Church Women United

Friday, November 6, There will be a **Celebration of World Community Day at St . Paul Catholic Church**. There will be snacks and coffee at 9:30am with the **service beginning at 10am. St. Paul Catholic Church is located at [1330 Sunshine Avenue](#) in Leesburg**. Please try and support this great organization.
Coordinator Leone Goding.



WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO COME AND JOIN THE CHOIR!

Choir Rehearsals have already begun, but it is NOT too late to join us!

*Rehearsals are held on **Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.***

Come join us and be part of this wonderful ministry!

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



A reminder that the next **Glorion** article submissions are due **Wednesday, October 21st.**

Prayer MATTERS



Pastor Tony invites all
to come join him on

TUESDAY MORNINGS
FOR PRAYER AT 10:00AM

*Together we can lift our hearts,
our church and our community in prayer.*