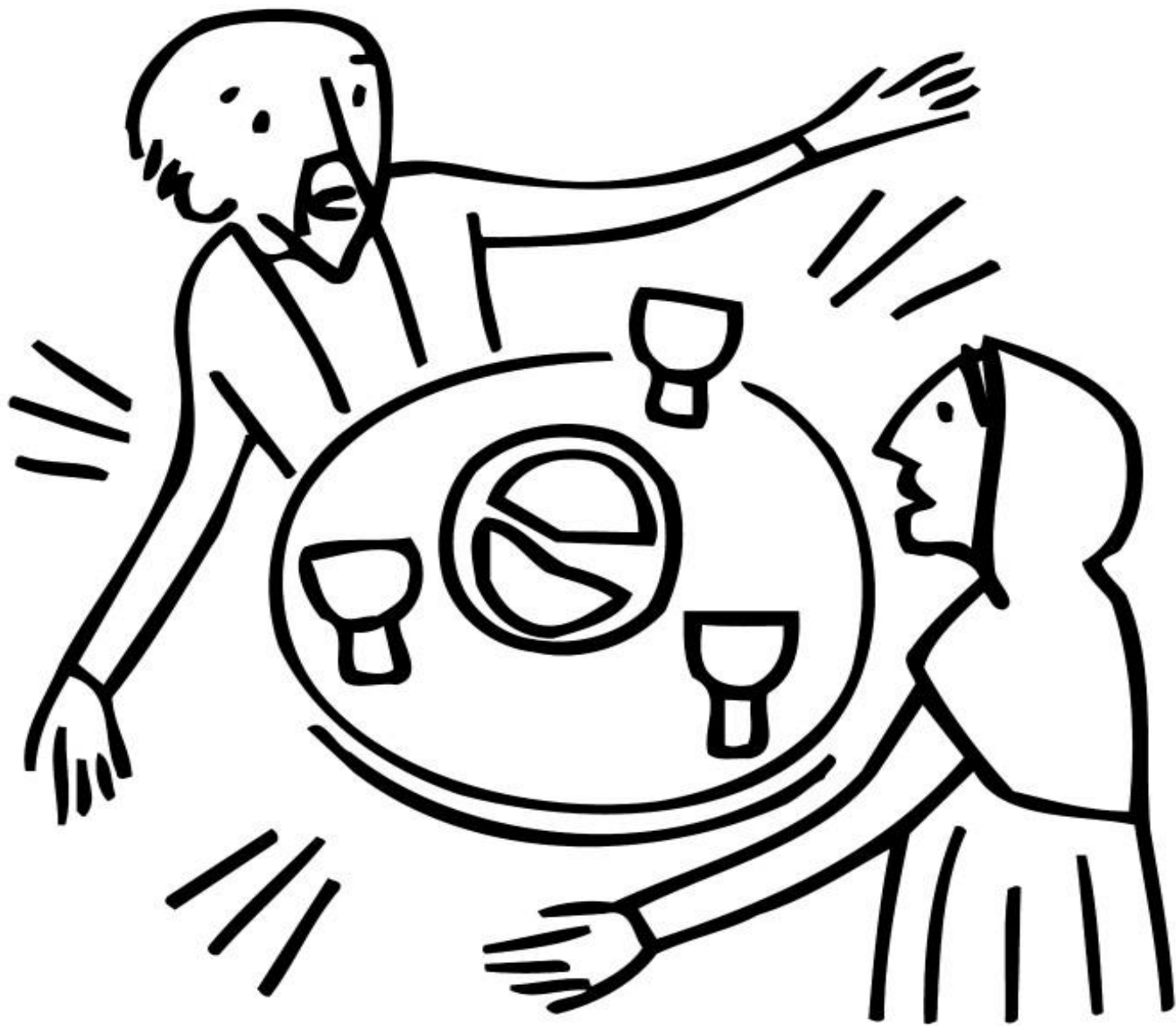


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 19, 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.

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

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: Kathy Bush

Crucifer:

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 Praying”

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 556 “Morning Has Broken”

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 Eleison

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

The enduring foundation of God's salvation

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10

Refrain

Kristina Langlois

Descant

Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.

Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.

- ¹ I will bless the LORD¹ at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be¹ in my mouth.
- ² I will glory¹ in the LORD;
let the lowly hear¹ and rejoice.
- ³ Proclaim with me the greatness¹ of the LORD;
let us exalt God's¹ name together.
- ⁴ I sought the LORD, who¹ answered me
and delivered me from¹ all my terrors.
- ⁵ Look upon the LORD¹ and be radiant,
and let not your faces¹ be ashamed.
- ⁶ I called in my affliction, and¹ the LORD heard me
and saved me from¹ all my troubles.
- ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who¹ fear
the LORD
and de-¹livers them.
- ⁸ Taste and see that the¹ LORD is good;
happy are they who take ref-¹uge in God!
- ⁹ Fear the LORD, you saints¹ of the LORD,
for those who fear the¹ LORD lack nothing.
- ¹⁰ The lions are in want and¹ suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing¹ that is good.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

- ¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the

ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 172 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets

have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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 391 "This Joyful Eastertide"

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.

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. 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: 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"

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.

...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.

... Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

... Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...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 491 "Come Let Us Eat"

CHOIR: "Lord, Listen to Your Children"

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 548 "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

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

130 South Lone Oak Drive

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:

Arlene Kelly, Lillian Ostrander

Greeters:

9:30 a.m.

Fellowship:

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

Altar Flowers: Given to the Glory of God

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

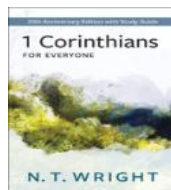
Sun.	4/19	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship Hunger Offering
Mon.	4/20	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	4/21	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Wed.	4/22	4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	4/24	9:00 a.m.	LWR Quilting
		9:00 a.m.	Mary Martha

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	4/26	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Worship
Mon.	4/27	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	4/28	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Wed.	4/29	4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	5/1	9:30 a.m.	Women United Friendship Day Meeting

Attendance for Sunday, April 12, 2026: 75

BIBLE STUDIES



Zoom Bible Study

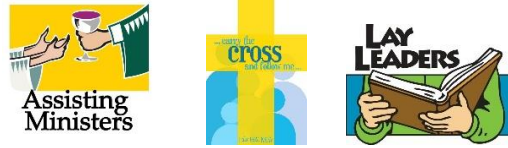
For the Monday Zoom Bible Study we are studying *1 Corinthians for Everyone*, by NT Wright. We meet **Every Monday at 7pm**. Contact the church office for the Zoom meeting link.

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.

Bible Study Opportunity

We warmly invite all members and friends to participate in an enriching Bible study on the Book of Acts, held at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays: A May 3, 10, and 31. This thoughtfully prepared study, developed by the Synod, offers a meaningful opportunity for spiritual growth and deeper understanding of the early Church. All are encouraged to attend.

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.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED- May Friendship Day is being held at Gloria Dei on Friday May 1 at 9:30. Please join women from other churches in area for Fellowship, and Worship. Theme of the meeting is "A Place Called Home." This meeting lasts one hour. Please consider joining this gathering of women.



Notes From the Office

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!

