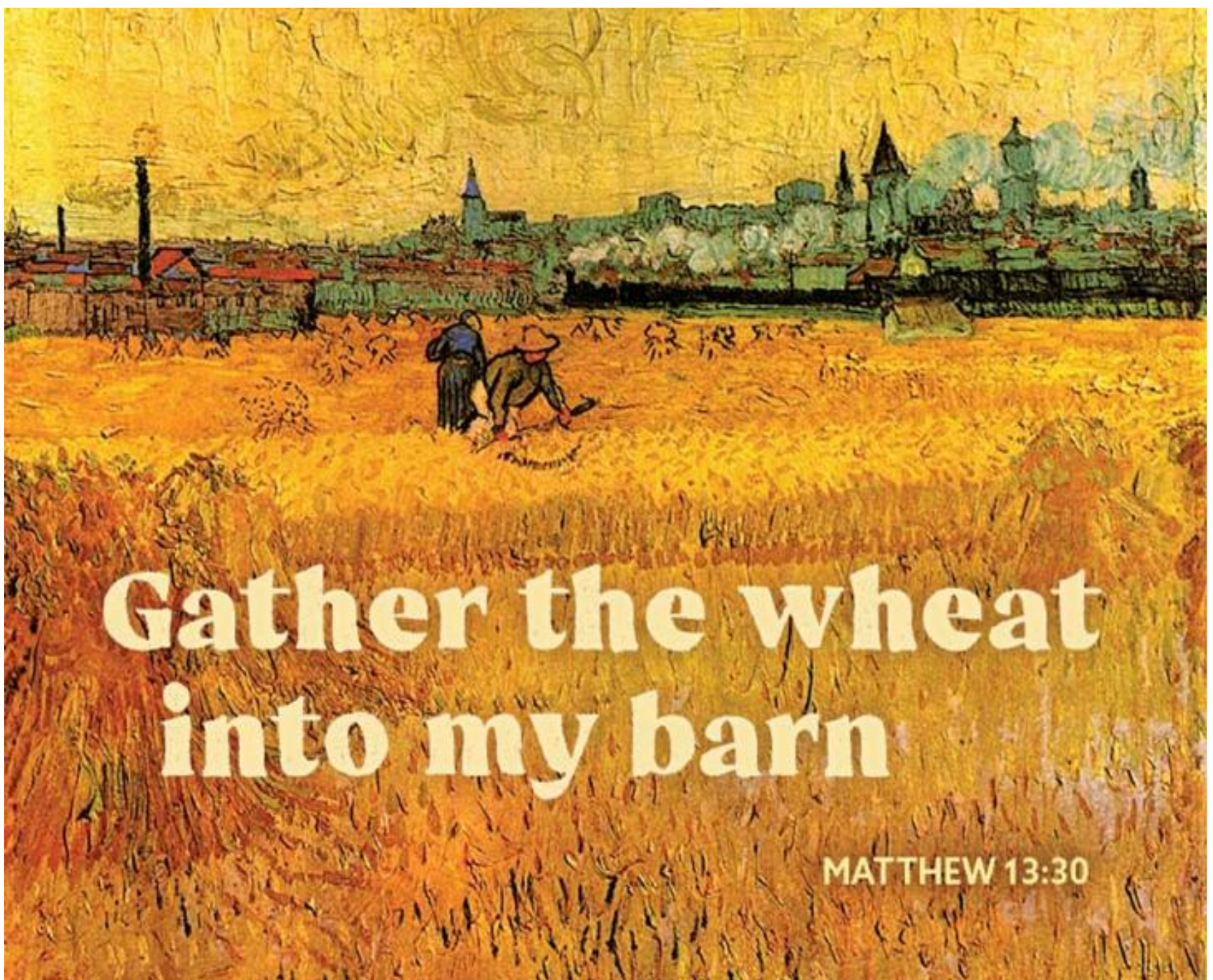


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 19, 2026

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.

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord’s table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

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: MaryJean Kancel

Crucifer: Leone Goding

Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler
- Ushers:** Crystal Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirkpatrick, John Kelly, Craig Carlson

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 842 Oh, Worship the King

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.**

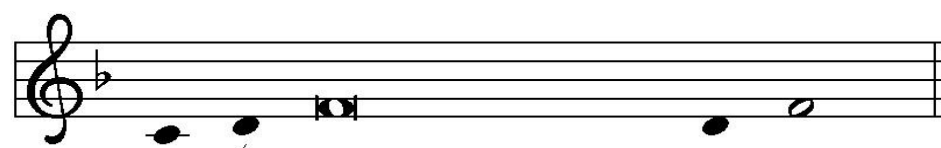
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the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

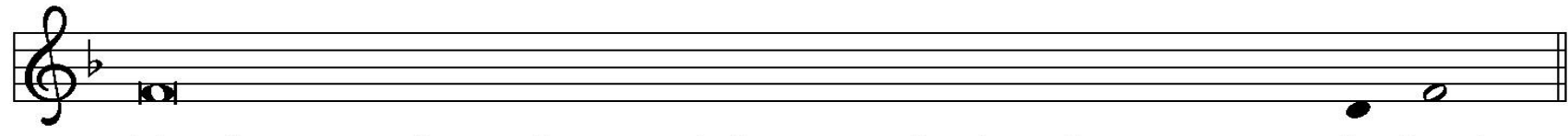
KYRIE: ELW pg. 138



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



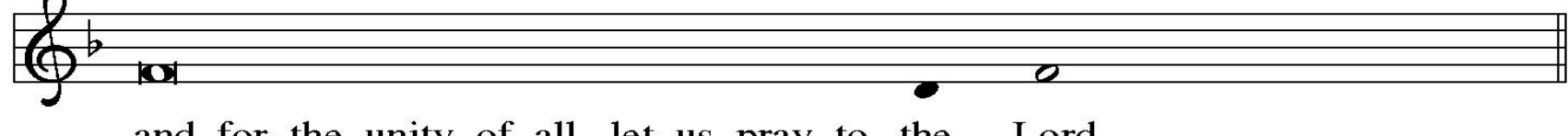
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



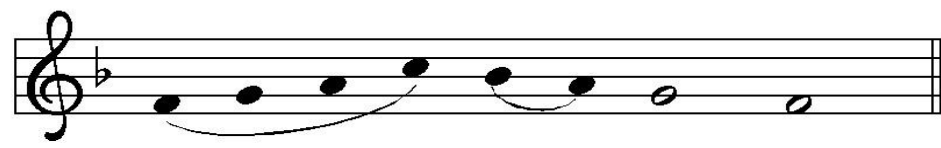
Lord, have mer - cy.



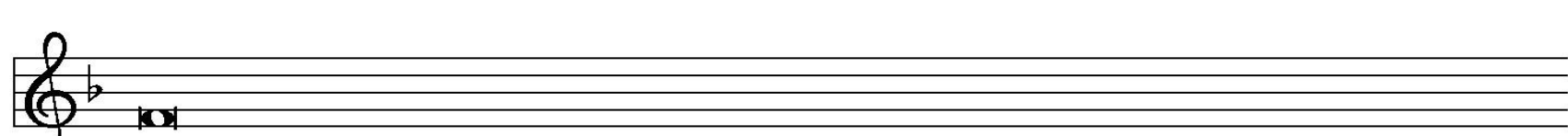
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



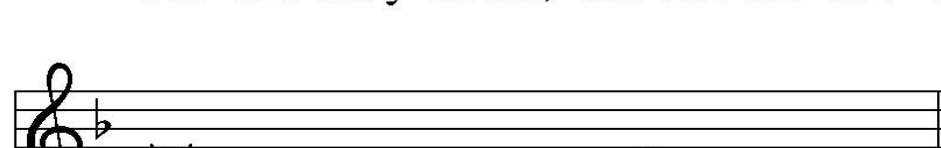
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



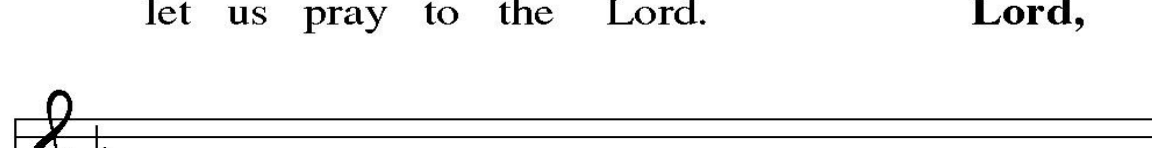
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



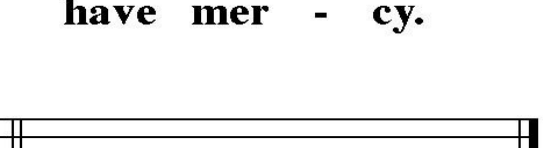
let us pray to the Lord.



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:**

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

There are no other gods besides God: the word of the LORD does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord;
thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 86:11-17

Read responsively, the congregation speaks the bold lines.

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of
violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶**Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child of
your handmaid.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see
it and be put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God’s children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

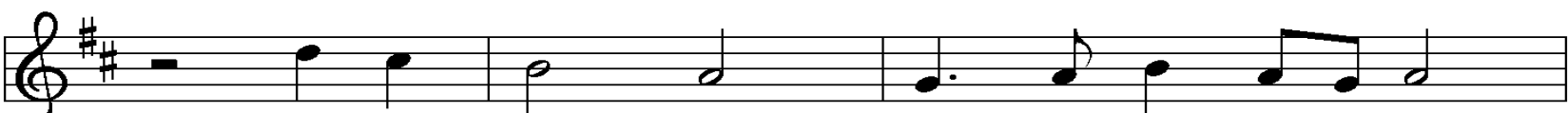
¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 13:24-30,36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 693 "Come, Ye Thankful People, come"

MESSAGE: Rev. Tony VanCura, Pastor

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

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.

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.
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: 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”

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 798 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

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 seated:

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 631 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

DISMISSAL

We Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

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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.:

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

Counters:

Arlene Kelly, Lillian Ostrander

Greeters:

Fellowship:

Dick Heally

Communion Wine: Given to the Glory of God.

Altar Flowers: Given to the Glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	7/19	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service
Mon.	7/20	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	7/21	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Fri.	7/24	9:00 a.m.	Quilting

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	7/26	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service/ Brief Order for Healing
Mon.	7/27	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	7/28	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer

Attendance for Sunday, July 12, 2026:

BIRTHDAYS

Charles Yonko	July 20 th
Milton DeLong	July 21 st
Debbye Halligan	July 21 st
Sylvia Hallberg	July 21 st

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 enter your name on the kitchen counter sign-up sheet or contact the church office.** 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.



Gloria Dei is switching our livestream from Facebook to YouTube. You do not need an account to watch the videos. Please go to this URL on your computer or smart device... <https://www.youtube.com/@gloriadeilutheranchurchlee2268>

You should see the live video playing at that website, but you may have to click on the Live tab to find it. All church videos from now on will be on YouTube.

While watching your first video, please consider subscribing to the channel.



🌸 A Special Birthday Card Shower for Northi 🌸

Please join us on **Sunday, July 26**, as we celebrate a truly remarkable milestone with a **Birthday Card Shower** for **Northi**, who will be celebrating her **104th birthday** on **July 30**.

What a beautiful blessing it is to celebrate 104 years of a life filled with faith, love, and countless memories. We invite you to help make Northi's birthday extra special by bringing a birthday card with your warm wishes, favorite memories, or words of encouragement.

Let's surround her with the love of her church family and remind her how much she is cherished. Your thoughtful card will be a wonderful way to honor this extraordinary occasion and brighten her birthday.

We hope you'll join us as we celebrate Northi and thank God for the blessing she is to our congregation. Happy 104th Birthday, Northi! 🎉 🍰 ❤️



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.