

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 20, 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: Jeanne Talts

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

Assistant Ministers:

Reader: Arlene Kelly

Crucifer: Leone Goding

Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler

Ushers: Byron Kirkpatrick
Ritch Cassem
John Kelly
Craig Carlson

GATHERING HYMN:

ELW 695 "As Saints of Old"

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.

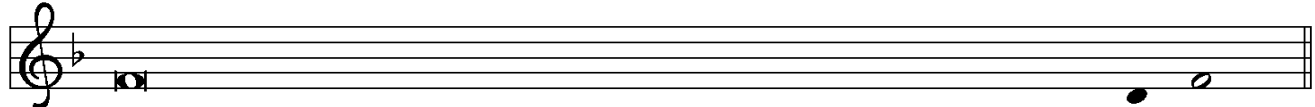
APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

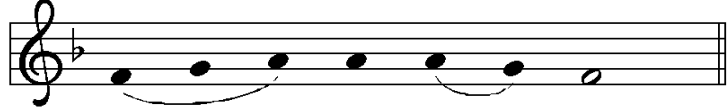
KYRIE. P. 138



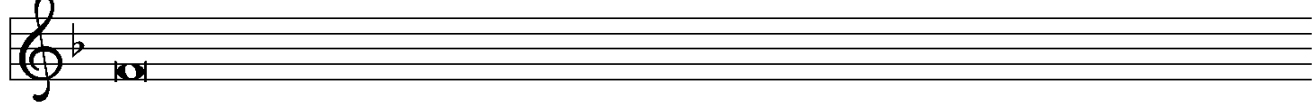
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



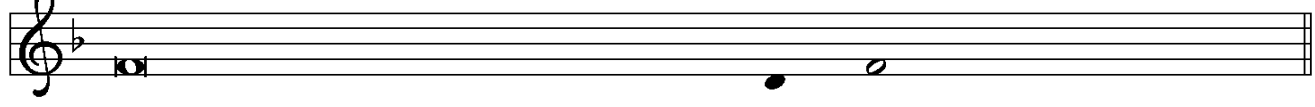
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



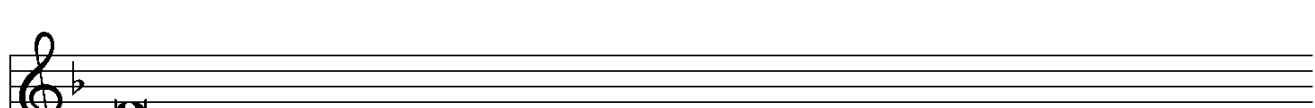
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



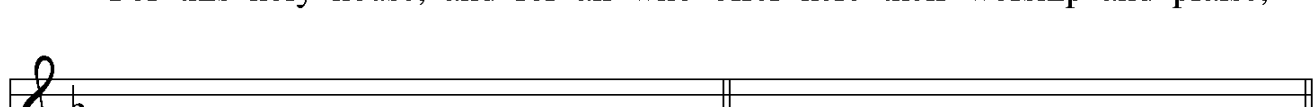
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



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,



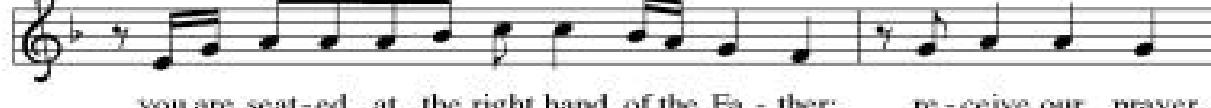
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



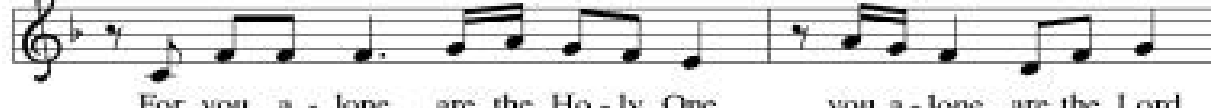
Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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:

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about

Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

The Word of the Lord;
thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8

Read responsively, the congregation speaks the bold lines.

¹I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

**²Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

**⁴One generation shall praise your works to
another
and shall declare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your
majesty
and all your marvelous works.

**⁶They shall tell of the might of your wondrous
acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great
goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

**⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am

convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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 20:1-16
The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So

they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.'

He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'
⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.'
⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY:

ELW 765 "Lord of All Hopefulness"

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"

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** *(Sung) (Repeat what you hear)*

Our Father...
Who art in Heaven...
Hallowed be...
Thy name...

Thy Kingdom come...
Thy will be done...
On earth...
As in Heaven...

Please give us...
All that we need...
And forgive us...
All our sins...
As we forgive...
Those who harm us...
And lead us not...
Away from you...

~ 4 measure modulation ~

For the Kingdom...
And the power...
And the glory...
Are yours now...

Forever...
And ever...
Amen...
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 492 "Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

ELW 494 "For The Bread Which You Have Broken"

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 669 "Rise Up, O Saints of God"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

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

Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2024
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license number #14240-ELW

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.: | Jeanne Talts <i>(In order to assist the
Pastor, if you need the Pastor to contact someone or address something)</i> |
| Counters: | Arlene Kelly
Lillian Ostrander |
| Greeters: | |
| Fellowship: | Helen and Don Jr. Ames
Patricia Bressler |
| Communion Wine: | Given to the Glory of God. |
| Altar Flowers: | Given to the Glory of God. |

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	9/20	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service/ Hunger Offering
Mon.	9/21	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	9/22	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	9/25	9:00 a.m.	Quilting

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	9/27	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service
Mon.	9/28	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	9/29	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		4:30 p.m.	NO CHOIR REHEARSAL
Thurs.	10/1	10:30 a.m.	Ruth Circle

Attendance for Sunday, September 13, 2026: 59

BIRTHDAYS

Marie Davids	Sept. 25th
Quiana Menchaca	Sept. 25th
Crystal Kirkpatrick	Sept. 26th

ANNIVERSARY

Karen and Pastor Tony VanCura	Sept. 20th	40yrs.
--------------------------------------	------------------------------	---------------

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.** Thank you!



WELCA stands for Women of the ELCA, which means every woman of Gloria Dei is already part of WELCA.

While participation has changed as seasons of life bring moves, health concerns, and aging, the heart of WELCA remains strong and welcoming.

If you are able, we warmly invite you to become more involved through the **Mary Martha Circle** or **Ruth Circle**. If monthly meetings aren't possible, your help with projects and special gatherings is always welcome and appreciated.

WELCA's mission is **"Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."** Together, we grow in faith, support one another, use our gifts, and serve our church, community, and world.

For more information, please see Leone, Dianne, or Loraine.



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.

Blessing of The Pets

Friday, October 2 from
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Donate unopen pet food,
towels and blankets

'Yappy Hour'
Human and Dog
Treats

Bring your (leashed or
crated) animal friend
for a special blessing in
honor of St. Francis



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!



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.



Important Notice from the Pastor

Scams are increasing, especially in churches. Please be aware that recent texts and emails claiming to be from me are **not from me**.

Please remember:

- I will **never ask for money or gift cards**.
- I will **never use "Rev." as part of my name in a text**.
- Always verify the **actual phone number or email address**.
- If you receive a suspicious message, **please call me directly before responding**.

When in doubt: STOP • VERIFY • CALL.

Be safe in Christ always,
Pr Tony

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.*



A reminder that the next **Glorion** article submissions are due **Tuesday, September 22nd**.

Pastor Tony will not be in the office on Tuesday, September 22nd.