

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 30, 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: Helga LaCava

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

Assistant Ministers:

Reader:

Crucifer: Leone Goding

Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler

Ushers: Crystal Kirkpatrick
Byron Kirkpatrick
John Kelly
Craig Carlson

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 658 O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

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.

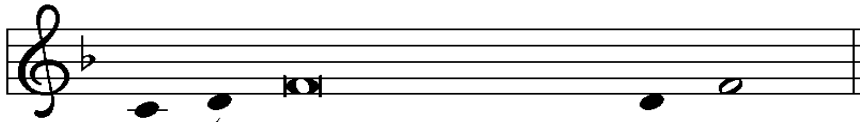
Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

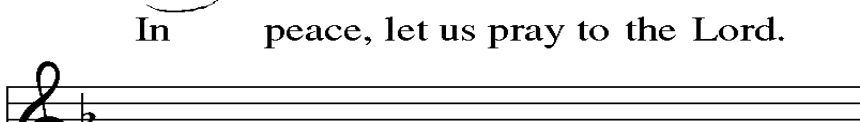
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

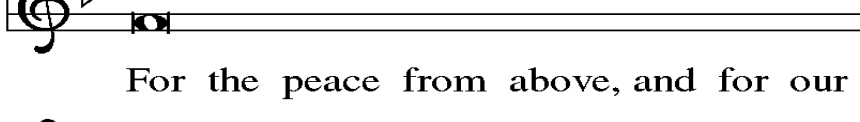
KYRIE: ELW pg. 138



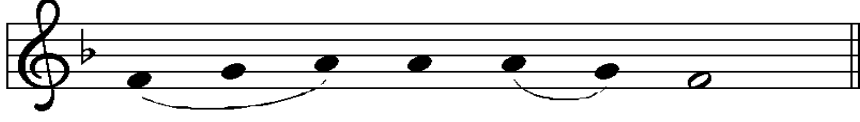
In



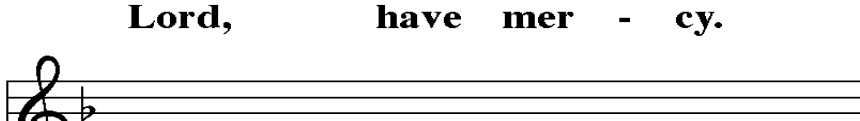
peace, let us pray to the Lord.



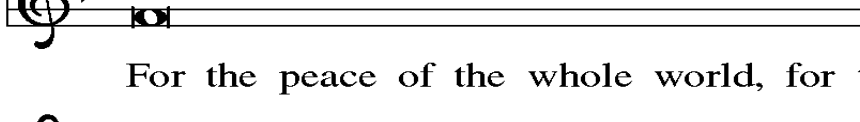
Lord, have mer - cy.



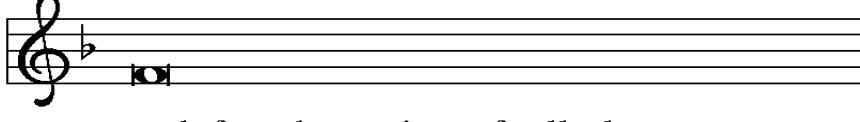
Lord, have mer - cy.



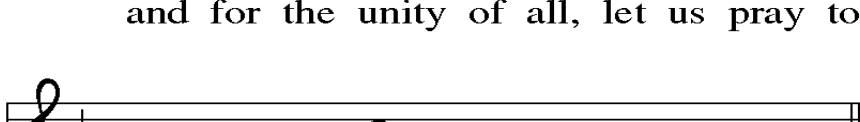
Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



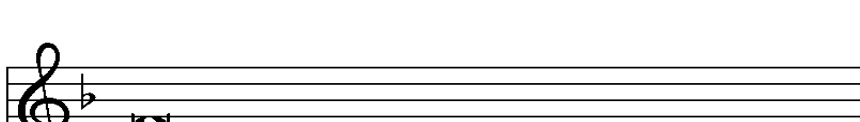
Lord, have mer - cy.



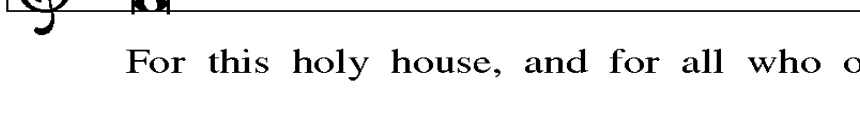
Lord, have mer - cy.



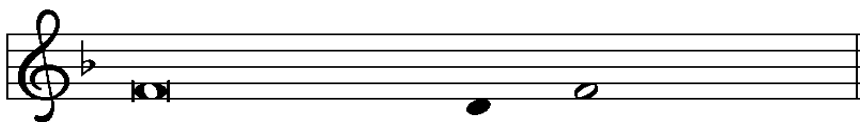
Lord, have mer - cy.



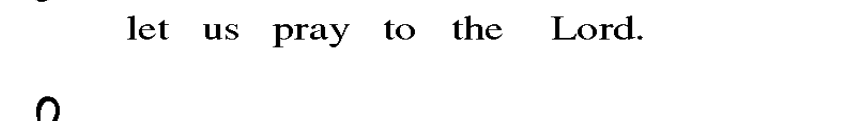
Lord, have mer - cy.



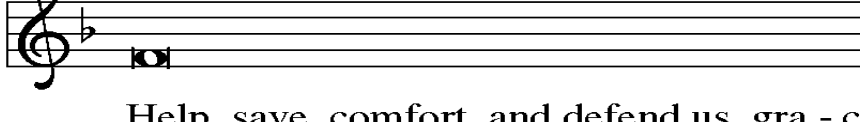
Lord, have mer - cy.



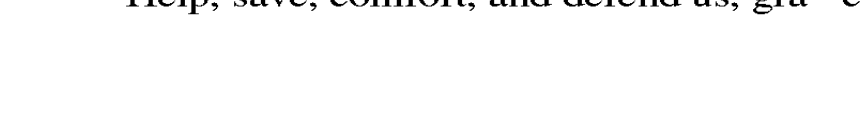
Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



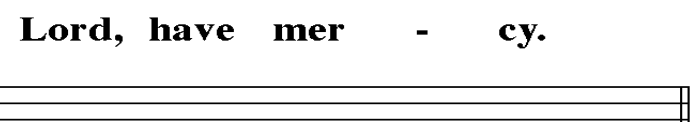
Lord, have mer - cy.



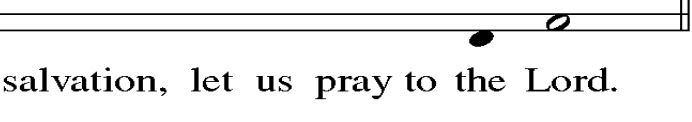
Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



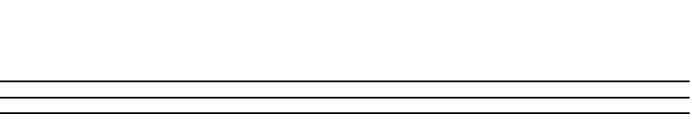
Lord, have mer - cy.



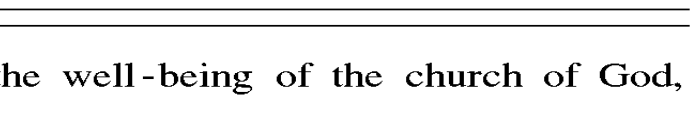
Lord, have mer - cy.



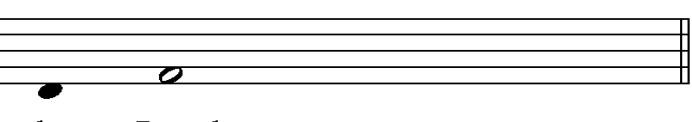
Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



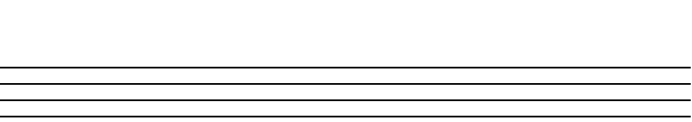
Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



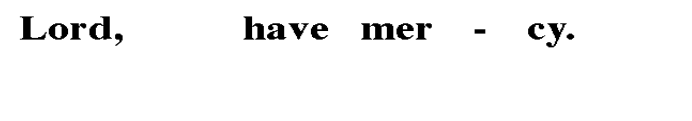
Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.

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:
O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.

²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The Word of the Lord;
thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

Read responsively, the congregation speaks the bold lines.

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

²**Test me, O LORD, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴**I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
⁸**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in
showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in
harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the
lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone
evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it
is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of
God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."
²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give
them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals
on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with
good.

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 16:21-28

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

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the
Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and
chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God
forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and
said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me;

for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 798 “Will You Come and Follow 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.

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.**

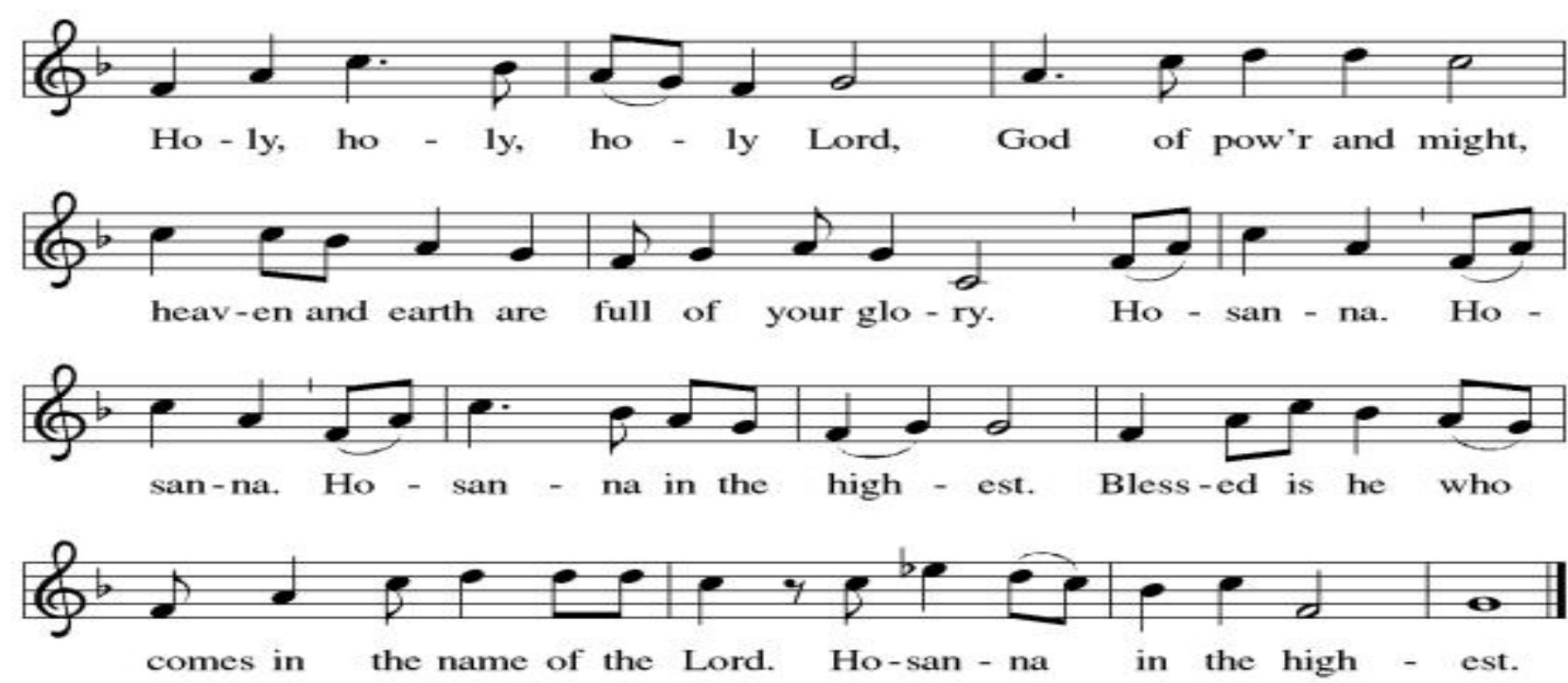
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 LORD’S PRAYER** *(Spoken)*

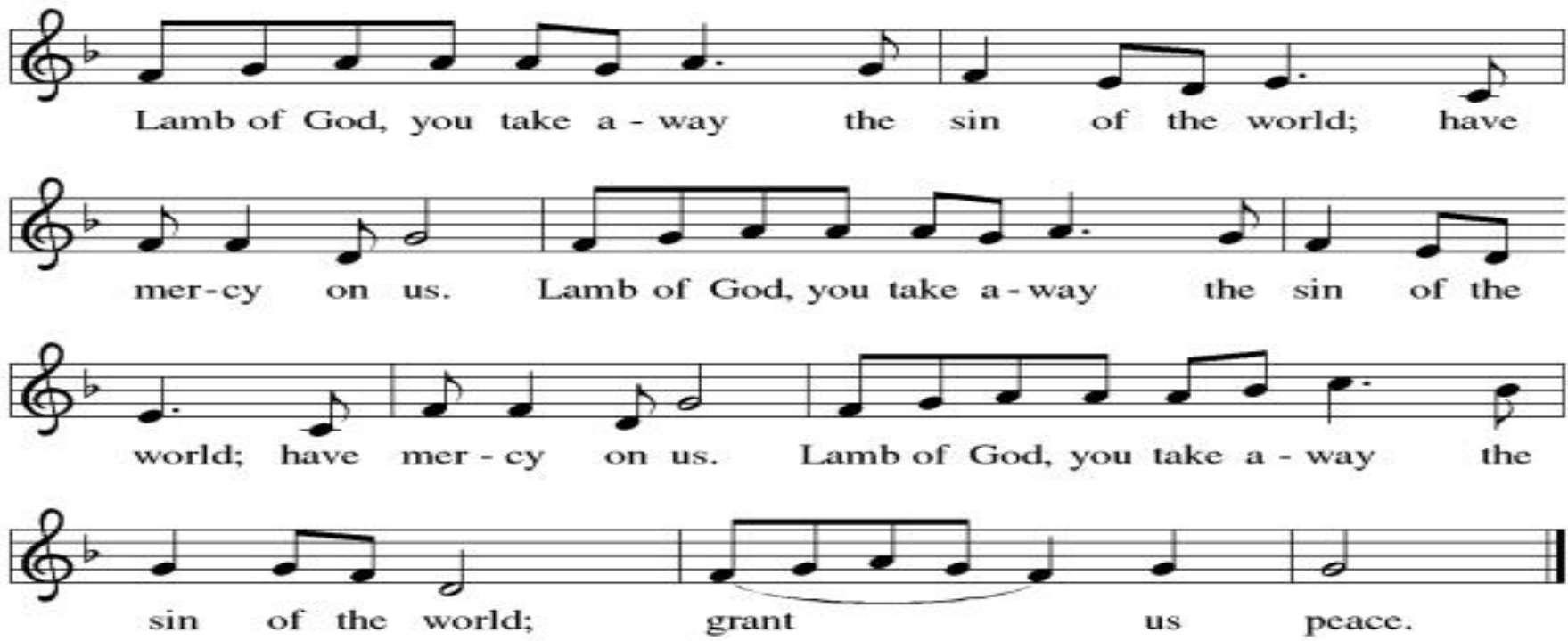
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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”



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 397 “Loving Spirit”

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

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 663 “Spread, Oh Spread, Almighty Word”

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.:

Helga LaCava *(In order to assist the*

Pastor, if you need the Pastor to contact someone or address something)

Counters:

Jeanne Talts

Greeters:

Fellowship:

Marie Davids, Helen Ames

Communion Wine: Given to the Glory of God.

Altar Flowers: Given to the Glory of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	8/30	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service
Mon.	8/31	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	9/1	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
		10:30 a.m.	WELCA Board Meeting
Thurs.	9/3	10:30 a.m.	Ruth Circle

NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun.	9/6	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Service/ Brief Order for Healing
Mon.	9/7	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study
Tues.	9/8	9:00 a.m.	Quilting
		10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer

Attendance for Sunday, **August 23, 2026:**

BIRTHDAYS

Kathleen Birdsall **Sept. 2th**

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 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!



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.



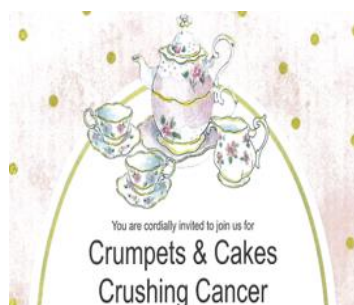
WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO COME AND JOIN THE CHOIR!

*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.

