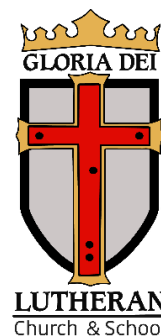


Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

Building Faith ✝ Building Community ✝ Building Lives



GATHERING MUSIC

Prelude in F Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL

GATHERING

WELCOME

You are invited to stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

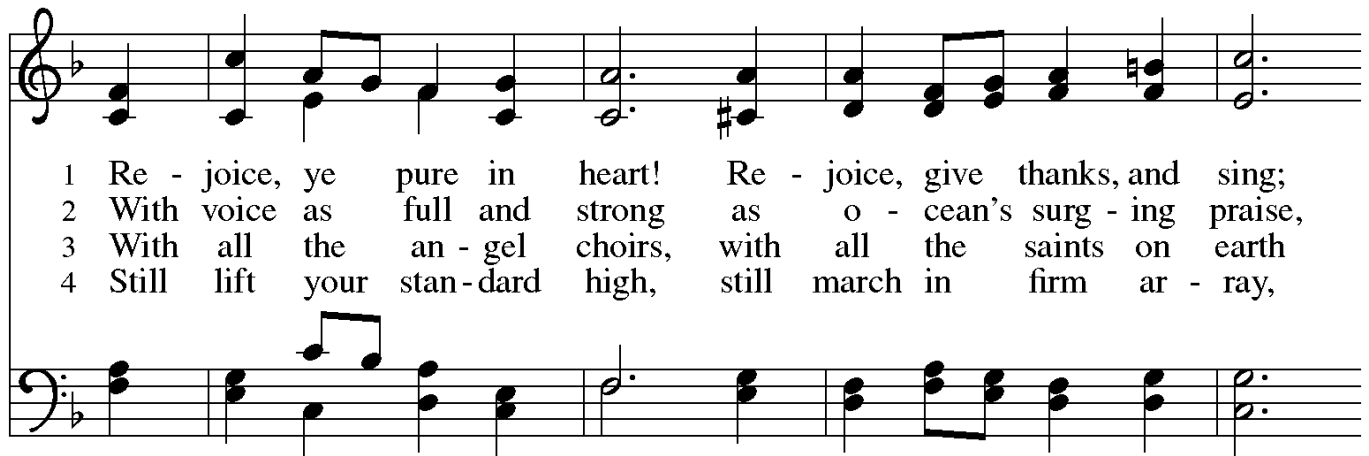
Let us confess our sin to God.

Kneel/stand as you are able.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.



1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

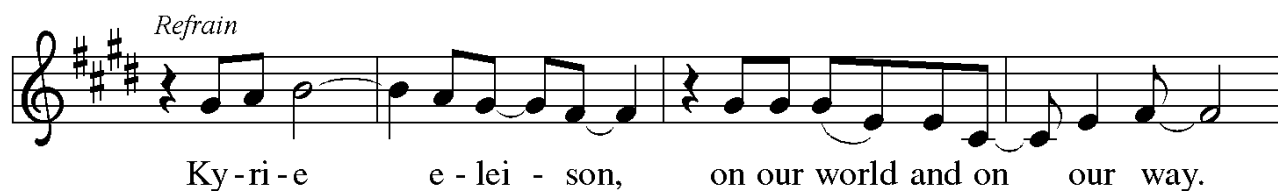
5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

GREETING (Stand)

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



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im - passionate re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for

hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

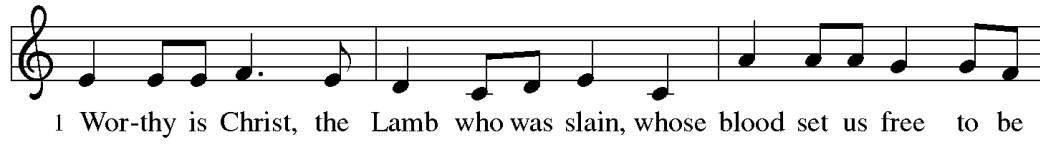
Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

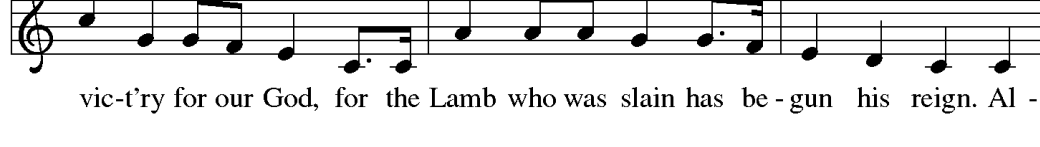


peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



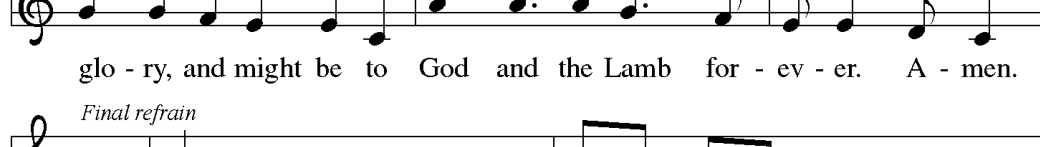
vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

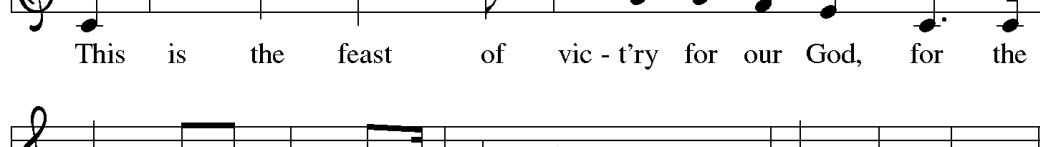


join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

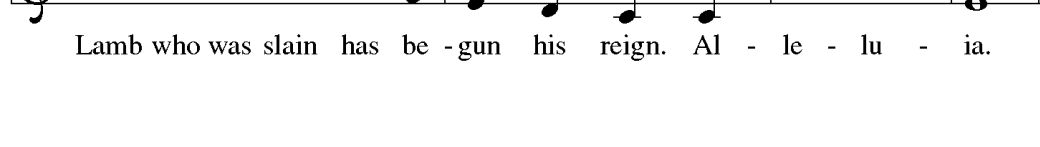


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Congregation sits. Children are invited to come forward during the song and sit on the chancel steps.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Send Me

Here I am, are you calling to me?

I am only a child, how can I be what you need?

But I keep hearing your call - telling to follow where you lead.

So here I am; send me.

READINGS

A reading from Ezekiel (18:1-4, 25-32) (Sit)

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (25:1-9) is read responsively.

¹ To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and up-right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

A reading from Philippians (2:1-13).

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Stand*)



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Congregation sings:



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’” ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’” ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

Congregation sings:



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (*Sit*)

Silence is kept for reflection.



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.*
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Lower case "c" means universal.

THE PRAYERS

You are invited to either stand or kneel.

The response to each prayer will be *hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.*

THE MEAL

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Stand*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING (*Sit*)

Support the mission and ministry of Gloria Dei by giving your financial tithes and offerings by:

- *placing your offering envelope into the offering plate as it is passed.*
- *mailing to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 250 Fox Hill Road, Hampton, Virginia 23669.*
- *using the Tithe.ly app: <https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>.*
- *using online bill pay with your own banking institution, using your envelope number as your account number.*

For electronic offerings, see back page for QR codes.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Meditation

Healy Willan

OFFERTORY HYMN (*Stand*)

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,

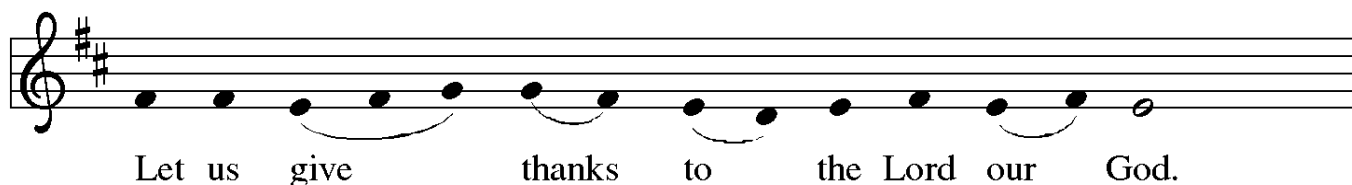
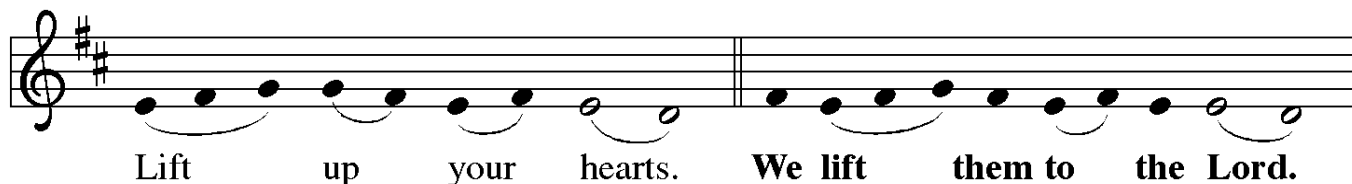
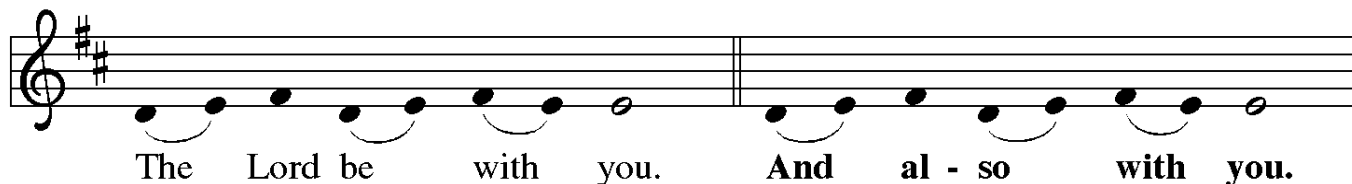
so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

DIALOGUE



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

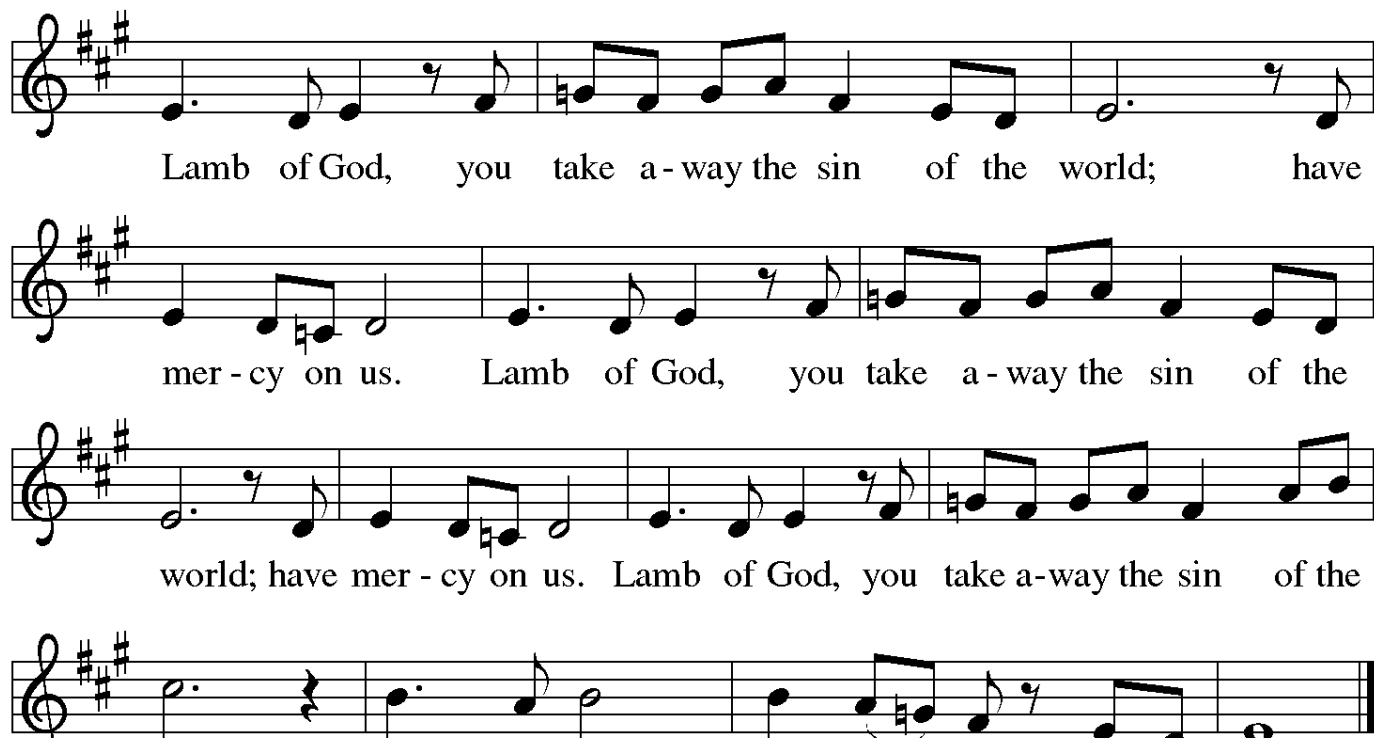
Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION RESPONSE *(Sit)*

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

*We believe that in the Eucharist our Lord Jesus Christ offers us His gifts of love and forgiveness.
All are welcome to share in Communion.*

*If you would like to receive communion by common cup instead of individual cups of wine or grape juice, after
you consume your wafer, hold your hands out (palms up), just like you did for your wafer.*

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



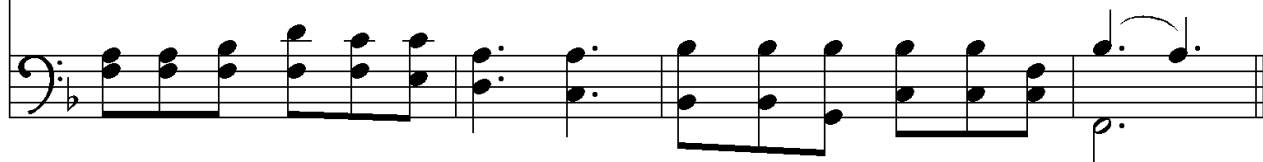
All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.



Refrain - All

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Leader or All

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall

al-ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo-ry in the

Lord; for God has been so good to me. *Refrain*

2 Glo-ri - fy the Lord with me. To - geth-er let us

all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who an - swered

me; from all my trou-bles I was set free. *Refrain*

3 Wor-ship the Lord, all you peo-ple. You'll want for

noth-ing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is

good; in God we need put all our trust. *Refrain*

SENDING

BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL *(Stand)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.

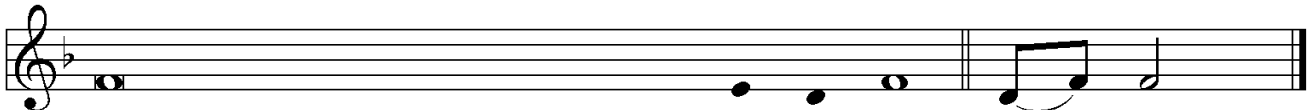


He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

BENEDICTION

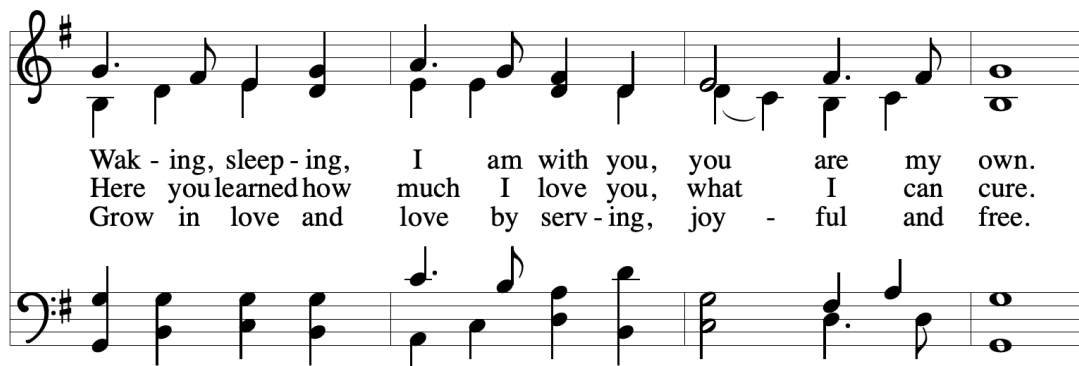


**☞ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.**

☞ A - men



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Sit)

POSTLUDE

Grand Chorus

Cesar Franck

Please take this time to ponder what Christ may be calling you/us to do through today's prayers, readings, sermons, and hymns as we listen to the postlude. If you are particularly moved by the Postlude, please hold your applause and congratulate the musician in person after worship.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Generosity Reflection

“Building Our Community, Anchored in Faith”

Rebuilding the Walls of Jerusalem — Nehemiah 3–4

After Jerusalem had been devastated, its walls were broken down and its gates had been burned. The people were discouraged, vulnerable, and uncertain about their future. Nehemiah was burdened with this knowledge and came with a plan to rebuild the walls...but he couldn't do it alone. So the people of Jerusalem came together. Families worked beside families. Priests worked alongside craftsmen. Merchants, leaders, and ordinary people all took responsibility for a portion of the work. **Each person did what they could.** Some repaired a gate. Others rebuilt a section of the wall. They didn't all have the same skills, resources, or responsibilities—but they shared the same purpose. There were obstacles and opposition along the way. Yet Nehemiah encouraged them to remain faithful.

Stewardship connection:

This story gives us a wonderful picture of what happens when a community comes together in faith. **No one person had to rebuild the entire wall.** Each person simply had to be faithful with the part that was theirs.

That's stewardship.

Our church, too, is something we build together. Our gifts support worship, ministry, outreach, fellowship, and the opportunities we have to serve our neighbors. Some people may be able to give more financially; others contribute through their time, talents, prayers, and service.

=====



GLORIA DEI WEEKLY

250 Fox Hill Road, Hampton, Virginia 23669-1793

Telephone (757) 851-2838 FAX (757) 850-3935

www.gloriadelutheranchurch.net e-mail: GDLC@gloriadei.net

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, (757) 873-2273, peninsulapastoral.org

Permission to stream and print today's music is obtained through Augsburg, #SAS028379, One License, #A-730790, and CCLI, #11514371.

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Chip and Dawn Lomax in celebration of their 36th anniversary.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS are available for each Sunday's service on the table in the Atrium.

PARENTS, if you would like your child to have a coloring book and colored pencils during worship, please ask an usher.

RESTROOMS are located in the Atrium.

INDIVIDUAL HEARING AIDS are available from the ushers. Please return them to an usher after the service.

Serving Today

COFFEE CREATORS: Dawn Lomax, Mary Mace

CROSS AND CROWN: Henry Wilkins

GREETER: Linda Moss

LAY ASSISTANT: Rita Foringer

READER: Sarah Olsen

TECHNICAL TEAM: Jeremiah Green, Barry Hutchison, Derry Mace, Mike Riley, Aaron Sutherland, Jenny Sutherland

USHERS: Jason Green, Eric Olsen

Congregational Sympathy

Gloria Dei Congregation expresses its sympathy to the family of Donna Lanning upon her death in Hampton, Virginia, on Sunday, September 20, 2026. Her funeral will be on Thursday, October 8, at Parklawn-Wood Funeral Home on Armistead Avenue in Hampton, with visitation beginning at 1:00 p.m., funeral at 2:00 p.m., and graveside at 3:00 p.m. Condolences may be sent to 135 Towne Square Dr, Newport News, VA 23607.

Weekly Calendar

Today EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
 8:30 a.m. First Light Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. **WORSHIP**
 11:00 a.m. Council Meeting
Monday-Wednesday.... Gathering of the Ministerium
Monday 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 27 Meeting
 Girl Scout Meeting
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Bible Study
 3:30 p.m. Food Prep for H.E.L.P.
Wednesday 12:00 p.m. Serving Lunch at H.E.L.P.
 6:15 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday
Thursday 2:30 p.m. Chorister Choir Practice
Next Sunday NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
 8:30 a.m. First Light Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. **WORSHIP**
 11:00 a.m. Information Meeting

Information Meetings

We will have a second informational meeting on Sunday, October 4, following worship in the Simeon Center in regards to a partnership agreement with St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Postponed Answer the Call: Walk to Emmaus

A Walk to Emmaus has been postponed until spring. More details will be shared as information becomes available.

Adult Choir Rehearsal

The adult choir rehearsal will now be held on Thursdays from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. We will be focusing on choral repertory for Reformation Sunday and the Christmas Eve liturgy. Big plans are in motion and "all hands on deck" are needed.

See you on Thursdays from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.!

Serving Lunch at H.E.L.P.

If you can help prepare or serve a meal to the participants at the H.E.L.P. Day Center, please talk to Pastor Dave. We prepare the meal in advance and serve it on Wednesdays. The H.E.L.P. day center is located at 329 Buckroe Avenue, Hampton.

Oktoberfest



Saturday, October 17, 2026
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Oktoberfest at Gloria Dei

To volunteer, please contact Amanda G., 530-315-1760, or Tom C., 757-713-9040.

Church and School Shirt Orders

We have new church and school shirts available for purchase. If you would like to get your own, order forms are available at the Information Desk.

First Light (Sunday School)

First Light is on Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m., in the Simeon Center.

Our Love and Prayers go out to...

If you have any prayer requests during the week, you may email psipes@gloriadei.net, or call the church office, 757-851-2838.

Our members: Frank Dickeski, Debbi Ortiz, Debbie Dunn, Jonah Hutchison, Peggy Todd, Izzy Zamora, Bill Monroe, Sharon Rose, Ron Rose, Leonard Mayo, Marna Mayo, Joann Morrison, Mary Capone, Beverly Hamrick, Bill Swanson, Fred Bradley, Judy Wagner St. Pierre, Vickie Roark, Gordon Robertson, Dorie Scherer, Joan Ehlers, Donna Vanorsdale, Tommy Vanorsdale, Jill Ruhl, Chris Tucker, Craig Ruhl, Susan Krebs, Bill Siefers, Charlie Venable, Emily Urban

Should you wish your loved one to remain on this list, please call the church office the first week of each month to have them added.

Prayers for our families and friends:

Traci Gray, niece of Carol Godley
 Jeff Deaver, friend of Peggy Todd
 Lois Peterson, mother of Craig Peterson
 Jeff Campbell, brother of John Campbell
 Mike and Roni Hull, grandparents of Amelia Venable
 Cheryl Lane, sister of Ron Rose
 Bertha Spence, mother of Brandon Spence
 Brendon Roark, brother of Peggy Todd
 Kevin Watterton, husband of Amy Watterton (GDLS employee)
 Jane Barefoot (GDLS employee)
 Michelle Nisbet (GDLS employee)
 Larry Mullins, friend of the Fullens
 Siggie Williams, friend of the Fullens and Atkins
 Mike May, brother of Deborah Walker (GDLS employee)
 Sheila May, mother of Deborah Walker (GDLS employee)
 Tom Vanorsdale, husband of Donna Vanorsdale

Watterton Fund

Kevin Watterton, spouse of Amy Watterton (long-time teacher at Gloria Dei), has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. If you would like to support the Watterton family, you may send a contribution to the church office through one of our payment methods. Please add "Watterton Fund" to the memo area of your chosen payment method.

All Lutheran Women's Retreat

Women from across Virginia are invited to gather for the **All Lutheran Women's Retreat, November 5–7, 2026, at the Drury Hotel in Glen Allen, VA.** This biennial retreat is an opportunity to step away from the busyness of daily life, connect with other Lutheran women, and grow together in faith and fellowship.

We are especially excited that Bishop Milton will serve as the Retreat Pastor this year! Come for a time of renewal, conversation, worship, and connection with women from across the Lutheran church.

Learn more and register at alwretreat.org. The *deadline* for registration is **October 9, 2026**.

Supper at Capri

Join Pastor and others at Capri Pizza and Italian Restaurant, located at 227 Fox Hill Rd., on **Tuesday, October 13, at 6:00 p.m.** We will have a meal together and share in conversations around Scripture. At the end of our time together, we will share Holy Communion. Invite your friends and family. **Please, RSVP to Peggy in the Church Office by Tuesday, October 6;** we want to make sure the restaurant is prepared for our group being there. You are responsible for the cost of your meal and a generous tip.

Trunk or Treat Assistance

On Sunday, October 18, Girl Scout Troop 1041, with assistance from Gloria Dei Youth Groups, will once again host the Annual Trunk or Treat.

The event will run from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are able to donate candy, a box will be placed near the fireplace. If you are interested in hosting a car and handing out candy, please let Vicki O'Neill know at 757.876.7066 or vicki.oneill@gmail.com.

Fellowship Bible Study

Fellowship Bible Study meets in the Simeon Center every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We use a study called Daily Faith Practices published by the ELCA. For information, please email Sharon Padula at spadula1@gmail.com.

A Glass with the Girls

We continue to get together on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Pour Girls in downtown Hampton for a Glass with the Girls. Please come join us. And remember, glasses can hold a lot of different things! If you have any questions, contact Rita Foringer at rforinger@verizon.net.

Reformation Sunday, October 25

On this day, we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism, we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's Table. **You are invited to wear red in commemoration of this significant event.**

Virginia Choral Society

**United We Sing
October 10, 4:00 p.m.**

Virginia Peninsula Community College, Hampton

October 11, 4:00 p.m.

King of Glory Lutheran Church, Williamsburg



Women of Gloria Dei Book Group

On Monday, October 12, we will meet at the home of Diane Washburn to discuss our book of the month, "The Mad Wife," by Meagan Church.

Lulu Mayfield has spent the last five years molding herself into the perfect 1950s housewife. Despite the tragic memories that haunt her and the weight of exhausting expectations, she keeps her husband happy, her household running, and her gelatin salads the talk of the neighborhood. But after she gives birth to her second child, Lulu's carefully crafted life begins to unravel.

When a new neighbor, Bitsy, moves in, Lulu suspects that something darker lurks behind the woman's constant smile. As her fixation on Bitsy deepens, Lulu is drawn into a web of unsettling truths that threaten to expose the cracks in her own life. The more she uncovers about Bitsy, the more she questions everything she thought she knew—and soon, others begin questioning her sanity. But is Lulu truly losing her mind? Or is she on the verge of discovering a reality too terrifying to accept?

In the vein of The Bell Jar and The Hours, The Mad Wife weaves domestic drama with psychological suspense, so poignant and immersive, you won't want to put it down.

Riverdale Community Benefit Yard Sale

Riverdale Community Benefit Yard Sale for the family of Brandon Jordan (the man killed by a hit-and-run while mowing his grass)

Date: Saturday, October 10

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Address: 807 West Mercury Blvd., Hampton, VA 23666

52 Sundays Initiative

In a world that constantly pulls us in different directions, worship helps re-center our hearts and minds on what matters most. Through prayer, music, Scripture, Holy Communion, and community, God continues to shape us, strengthen us, and send us into the world to serve. Faith grows best when it is practiced consistently, and worship is one of the primary ways we are formed as disciples of Jesus.

Mark your calendar every Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., "WORSHIP," and stick to it.

Wonderful Wednesdays

All students in grades K-12 are invited, beginning at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16.

We will have snack time at 6:40 p.m.

Please scan the QR code to register your child.

We also invite you to worship with us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Nursery is available.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

6:15 PM - 7:30 PM

BIBLE STUDY • MUSIC • CRAFTS

1st Semester

Sep. 16, 23, 30
Oct. 7, 14, 21

2nd Semester

Nov. 4, 11, 18
Dec. 2, 9, 16

3rd Semester

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27
Feb. 3

4th Semester

Apr. 14, 21, 28
May 5, 12

We are excited to offer this program to all students in **Grades K-12.**



Please scan this QR Code to register your child.

Birthdays

4	Mike Canny, McKenna Behan, Bob Reynolds	10	Andrea Cerone	25	Dallam Brown
5	Amiee Lomax, Ann Minniear	11	Jessica Green, Gwyn Gridley	26	Raegan Cole
7	Lisa Dadez, Carol Moody	16	Susan Grimm	27	Meghan Nowell, Charles Gainer
8	Helen Rountree	21	Jim Fullen, Joann Morrison	31	Tami Atkins, John Cerone, Dan Jordan, Ava Roark, DJ Miller
9	Eli Murphy, Bayden Dadez	22	Steve Anderson		
		23	Melanie Lowman, Cassie Smith		

Anniversaries

1	Bo and Amiee Lomax	23	Wayne and Linda Sutherland	29	Michael and Ashley Zamora
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Building Foundations that Last--School Building Project

Fundraising Campaign for New Elementary School at Willow Oaks

Gloria Dei is actively in a fundraising campaign to support the construction of a new elementary school building on our Willow Oaks campus. This initiative marks an important step forward in our mission to provide a Christ-centered, academically excellent education in a space designed to meet the needs of our students and families.

Would you please consider giving a gift today? We encourage every person connected to this community to prayerfully consider how they can participate in this transformative journey.

Together, we are building more than new facilities—we are building a strong foundation for generations of Gloria Dei students to grow in faith, knowledge, and purpose.



QR Codes for Online Giving to Gloria Dei

If you would like to give electronically to Gloria Dei, you can do so by scanning one of the QR codes below.

Tithe.ly



PayPal



Venmo

