

**SCRIP
Sunday**

Worship with us - Sunday at 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Online Worship @ <https://www.youtube.com/c/gloriadei> (Sunday)
 Sunday School - 9:10 a.m. - 10:10 a.m. Adult Bible Study - 9:10 a.m.



Prayers for Joan Rausch, Paul Morton, Kyle, Bob Malinowski, Jill, and Cath Mode.



This week's focus for our 2024 Advent theme, Words For the Beginning, is **Do the good that is yours to do.** As John the Baptist is teaching about bearing good fruit, the crowds, tax collectors, and soldiers ask him, "What, then, should we do?" His answer to each group is slightly different, but ultimately the same: "Do the good that is yours to do."

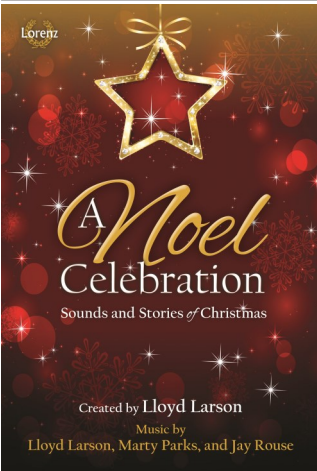
Advent devotionals are available and can be picked up on the Advent table in the Narthex.

SVCT Christmas Meal - Sat, Dec 14 - St Paul's

10:45 Prayer Service
 11:30-12:30 Dinner



Thank you Loopy Loomers for making hats and scarves and Nancy Swanson for tying blankets that were donated to the SVCT Christmas Dinner on December 14.



Next Sunday , Dec 22
1 Service @ 9 a.m.
Cantata Worship Service
Led by One Voice Choir

One Voice Choir practice
 Saturday, Dec 21 at 9am

Lesson & Carol Service
 Sunday, Dec 29
 9:00 a.m.
 (One service only)

**Shop
With
Scrip**

This Sunday is the last day before the holidays to order SCRIP. Order forms are in the SCRIP Mailbox near church office. Submit order form on Sunday and SCRIP can be picked up at church by Dec 19.

Dec Coffee Hour is being sponsored by Brenda Marks in memory of her brother, James Shady.



Special thank you to Jim & Vicki Wippich for organizing the Thanksgiving Basket program. Your ministry extends beyond Gloria Dei. Gloria Dei's generosity was overwhelming again this year. Thanks to all who helped!!!

New sign up is posted for Jan-Mar to help with Sunday worship & Wednesday Lenten services. Please sign up on the kiosk.

Sunday School Christmas Program is this Sunday, Dec 15 at 10:30 service. Last practice will be held during Sunday school hour. SS families are asked to bring 1 dozen cookies to enjoy after the Christmas program. Looking for 1-2 people to volunteer to set up and serve the cookies after the 10:30 service on Dec 15.



A HUGE THANK YOU for making the Advent Brunch a success. There was over 130 people that attended. Thank you to everyone who brought in food and helped set up and clean up.

The Fellowship Committee/SPARK

GD would like to give a shout out to The Fellowship/SPARK Committee for organizing a wonderful brunch on Sunday, Dec 8. Thank You!



Happy Birthday to GD members who will be celebrating a birthday in December: Tom Helm and Maxine Pohlman. God's blessings to you. Let the church office know if you would like to be included in the monthly birthday blessing.

Christmas Giving Tree 2024

This Christmas season we helped 2 local families, 12 total children, ages 18 months - 17 years old. These kids were so lucky to have Gloria Dei adopt them! They received EVERYTHING on their gift list plus more!

Each child received shirts, pants, underwear/diapers, socks, pjs, winter hats, scarves, mittens/gloves, blanket and/or pillow, books, activities, personal care products, and Toys Toys Toys! One lucky girl will find a shiny new pink bike under her Christmas tree this year!

Thank you to the generous members of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church; you always go above and beyond and it's very appreciated! Thank you to Pastor Jon, Pastor Tabitha, Joan, The Loopy Loomers, and Thrivent. A special shout out to Nancy Swanson for paving the road for this fantastic project for the community.

I look forward to Christmas Giving 2025! Tori Imhoff




For the next 2 weeks, Caramel Nut and Mint Candy Bars are **only \$1.00**. Great stocking stuffers. Box is located on the table in the Narthex.

As we prepare for the holiday season, here are upcoming church events to put on your calendar:
 Dec 15: Children's Christmas Program @ 10:30 service w/ refreshments after the program
 Dec 22: **Cantata lead by One Voice Choir: One service at 9am. No Sunday school.**
 Dec 24: Christmas Eve Services @ 4pm & 6:30pm (Prelude begins at 3:45 p.m. and 6:10 p.m.)
 Dec 25: Christmas Day Service @ 9am
 Dec 29: **Lesson & Carols: One service 9am. No Sunday School.**

Upcoming Community Events:
 ♦ Paul Mayer: 25th Stars & Promises Christmas Concert - Friday, Dec 20 @ OSLC - see kiosk for more information.
 ♦ Synod Youth Tubing Day - Jan. 11 @ Kewanee Winter Park.

End of Year Financial Gifts: Friendly reminder to all: In order for financial gifts to be counted for the 2024 tax year, gifts must be received in the church office by Monday, December 30 at 9am
 Here are ways we invite you to consider giving to GD's Ministries:
 + Mail your offerings early enough to arrive by Dec 27.
 + Drop off your offerings in the office by Dec 30 at 9 a.m.
 + Scan the QR Code with your phone or tablet. You'll be directed to a secure page from Gloria Dei's website. You can donate via debit/credit card or checking/savings account.
 + Go to www.gloriadeilc.org/give you will be directed to secure donation page.
 + Text your gift dollar amount to: 1-877-952-9422. GD's individual text number is accessible for you to make a secure donation.



 Thank you to Gloria Dei members, Friends, and family, for sharing in the ministries of Gloria Dei, by giving financial gifts!
 CHURCH Be CHURCH

Coffee House Ministry – Thurs from 3:15-4:30pm
 Coffee House served 82 students and parents last week. Thank you to all you have brought treats or volunteered. If you would like to volunteer or bake goodies, please contact Pastor Jon.

Gloria Dei Member, Vinny Wilson (a freshmen at NHS), has a donation container on the table in the narthex. He is collecting money to add a little extra home cooking for breakfasts he prepares for Pillars Family Shelter where he volunteers to cook breakfast once a month. Please take the time to read the article he has posted on his donation container. Thanks.

Worship Help Needed for Christmas Eve Dec 24

Please contact the church office or sign up on the kiosk if you could help with worship:
 Christmas Eve (4:00): 2 greeters, 4 ushers, 1 acolyte
 Christmas Eve (6:30): 2 greeters, 4 ushers, 1 acolyte

Thank you to all the people who mowed the lawn and helped with fall clean-up this year. There will be a spring clean up in May and new lawn mowing sign up will be posted on the kiosk for 2025. Please consider signing up to help.

Flowers on the Altar in 2025: Posted on the bulletin board in the hallway is the 2025 calendar for flowers. If you'd like to sign up for flowers, please add your name to the list and indicate if there's a special occasion for the flowers. Those who sign up are responsible for having the flowers at church for worship that day.

GD Volunteers needed for counting offering gifts

Volunteers are needed to help count offering gifts throughout the year. This involves counting weekly offering envelopes and other financial gifts that are received at worship. Volunteers would be on a rotation and may help one or two months throughout the year. Volunteers would be paired up with one or two other GD members and have a helpful form/template to use to complete the tasks. Approximate time commitment for counting offerings is 1- 1.5 hours. The process generally occurs on Sundays after worship or Mondays/Tuesdays and is flexible based on volunteers availability. No prior financial experience is necessary. Contact the church office if interested.

2025 COFFEE HOUR SPONSORSHIP:

Coffee sponsorship benefits our members who enjoy coffee and fellowship and benefits the farmers and others involved in the Equal Exchange program that are ensured a fair price for the coffee grown for our enjoyment.

The new 2025 sign-up sheet has been posted on the hallway bulletin board. Cost is \$10 per week. Gifts may be placed in the offering plate in a plain envelope marked with your name, envelope number, amount, and with notation that the gift is for "Coffee Sponsorship".

"Christ in Our Home" Devotionals are available for Jan-Mar 2025. Pick one up by the church office.



WEEK AT A GLANCE

<p>15 SUNDAY 8:00 Worship Service (Live Stream on YouTube) 9:00 Fellowship Hour 9:10 Adult Bible Study 9:10 SS Christmas program practice 10:30 Worship Service/ Children's Christmas Program</p>	<p>16 MONDAY 7:30 Pilates 3:00 Phillip Shredding 6:30 Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>17 TUESDAY No Quilting 9:00 ZUMBA 11:30 Swanson Card Group</p>	<p>18 WEDNESDAY 9:00 Priscilla Circle 5:30 Junior Choir 6:15-7:30 Confirmation 6:30 One Voice Choir</p>	<p>19 THURSDAY 7:30 Morning Bible Study 3:15-4:30 Coffee House 5:00 Book Club - meet at Zuppas 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous</p>	<p>20 FRIDAY 7:30 Pilates 7:00 Women of Hope NA</p>	<p>21 SATURDAY 9-10:30 One Voice Choir Practice 12:00 Swanson Family Christmas</p>
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