

March 9, 2025
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
First Sunday in Lent



everything
[in] between
stranger & neighbor

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Neenah, Wisconsin
Service of Holy Communion

Ministers
Pastors

Everyone at Gloria Dei
Pastor Tabitha and Pastor Jon Gallatin

Welcome to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church!
So that we may come to know each other better...please fill out the maroon Friendship Pad located at the end of each pew and pass it along for others to do the same. Once completed, return it and note the names of the others seated next to you so you may greet one another after the service.

Congregational portions are in **Bold** print, *please stand as you are able

This parable begins and ends with the question, “Who is my neighbor?” and the answer is, surprisingly, “the stranger.” The Samaritan, whose place of worship and customs are different from the scribe who questions Jesus, is both a stranger and a neighbor to the man who was beaten and left in a ditch. In our world, many of our physical neighbors are strangers to us, and many of our neighbors--those closest to us--feel like strangers in divisive political climates. If we align our intentions and actions, then maybe we need to reconsider who we consider “stranger,” and ask ourselves if we have acted as good neighbors.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

P Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**C Who is my neighbor? How can I help? What do I have to learn?
Where is God in it all?**

P Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**C So may we listen. May we learn. May we stay curious, and may we
look for God.**

P This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

P God meets us in the night—

**C before the sun rises, before the wound heals, before there are
answers, before there is closure.**

P God meets us in the light—

**C where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious, where
flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, where people gather
around tables.**

P God meets us in between—

**C at the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness, at the
start of something new, on the edge of faith.**

P And if God meets us in all those places,

**C then surely God meets us everywhere— at the water’s edge, at the
start of something new, after the baptism, and before the call.**

P We are not alone. God is all around.

C Let us worship the God of everything.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

P Our faith tells us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, but you and I know that is often easier said than done. Fortunately for us, prayer can be a tool for transformation. When we are honest before God and each other, we open the door to growth and change. So join me in the prayer of confession. Join me now, so that tomorrow, we will be even better at loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Let us pray:

C Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we pray, Amen.

***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

P Family of faith, when we set limits on love,

C God loves extravagantly.

P When we forget that we are neighbors,

C God claims us as God's own.

P When we judge, hold back, or harm,

C God surrounds us with grace.

P There is nothing we can do or leave undone that could separate us from the love of God.

C This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God! Amen

***GATHERING HYMN “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine” ELW #774**



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*** GREETING**

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

C And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L Gracious God,

C We love to ask you questions. We love to throw our wonderings at the sky, to bring our curiosity to your feet, to examine, beseech, and imagine all day long. But when the answers come, we don't always like what we hear. Awaken a curiosity in us. Awaken a penchant for listening, and make room in our spirits for your Word to land. With hope we question, we wonder, we dream, we listen. Amen.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 10:17-19

Moses said to the people of God, "For the Lord your God is God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were once foreigners in Egypt"

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC One Voice Choir - 8:00 am service

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-10

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 10:25-37

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." ²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of

these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Pastor Jon Gallatin

SONG OF RESPONSE "I Saw a Stranger on the Road" Original Hymn
To the tune of: "Come, Join the Dance of Trinity" ELW 412



I saw a stran - ger on the road in need of help and
I laid there des - perate by the road in need of help and
In our em - brace the mem - o - ry re - turned from E - den's



care No clues to their i - den - ti - ty, just hu - man
care As one by one they passed me by, too bu - sy
dust Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh, my kin whom



flesh laid bare A thought had flut - tered through my
or too scared Then one ap - proached and my first
I can trust The ar - ti - fi - cial walls we



mind: "Is this one of my own?" My tri - bal mind
thought was "Do they mean me harm?" To my sur - prise
build a - round the tribes we claim Make us for - get



made me for - get that they're bone of my bone
they met my eyes and held me in their arms
the gos - pel truth: "Be - lo - ved" is your name

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

L Church, if God asked you, “Who is your neighbor?” what would you say?

C We would say, every child, every person, every weeping willow, and every morning lark. Every freckled face, every wrinkled pair of hands, every tail-wagging dog, and every crisp ripe apple. We would say, we are connected— to one another, to all of God’s creation. There are no strangers in God’s house. We are all family here.

L I think God would delight in that answer. For it is said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

C with all your soul,

L with all your strength,

C with all your mind,

L and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

C We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L God of grace, **C hear our prayer.**

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C And also with you.**

SHARING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

We joyfully offer financial gifts to God’s ministry through Gloria Dei in a variety of ways. Either place gifts in offering baskets as they are distributed or go to www.gloriadeilc.org/give (or scan QR code) or text your gift to 1-877-952-9422 this morning. If you are giving electronically or at a frequency other than weekly, please place a blue card (located in the pew rack) in the offering basket to signify your gifts. Thank you for your generous response to God’s blessings!



***OFFERTORY**

"God Loved the World" vs 1

ELW #323



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

***OFFERING PRAYER**

L Let us pray together,

C **Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

P All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to the Lord's Supper today! Communion is served by intinction at stations. As you come forward, you will receive the bread and then dip it into the divided chalice for wine (red) or grape juice (white). Children who receive communion, please hold out hands to receive the bread. Those not communing, please fold hands to receive a blessing. Please notify an usher if you would like to receive communion at your seat.

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.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

*BLESSING

P As you leave this place, may you find God in every messy middle. May you know that the world is bigger than two sides. May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain multitudes. So may you move through this world with an open heart, with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone. God is with you in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between. Believe that good news, and go in peace.

C Amen.

***SENDING HYMN "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace" ELW #716**



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all
 2 Break down the wall that would di - vide thy chil - dren,
 3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less
 4 Give me thy cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er
 5 With thine own love may I be filled and by thy



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son may I
 Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
 act and thought - less word. Make me to see the wrong I
 strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the vic - tim
 Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, wher - e'er I



see my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by thee.
 sue; let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
 do will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
 be, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring thee.
 be, may be di - vine - ly touched by thee.

***SENDING**

L Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C Thanks be to God.

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
MINISTERS	All God's people at Gloria Dei	All God's people at Gloria Dei
PRESIDING MINISTERS	Pastors Jon & Tabitha Gallatin	Pastors Jon & Tabitha Gallatin
MINISTER OF MUSIC	Dr. Myron Jones	Dr. Myron Jones
CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR	Jill Kruger	Jill Kruger
CHOIR ACCOMPANIST	Sherry Klitz	Sherry Klitz
LITURGY ASSISTANT		
LECTOR		
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS		
USHERS		Vincent Guardiola
GREETERS		
ACOLYTE	Audrey Johnson	Ava Corbin
NURSERY ATTENDANT		
ALTAR GUILD	Carol Anderson	Carol Anderson
COFFEE HOST		

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (ELCA)
1140 Tullar Road, Neenah, WI 54956
920-725-6822
www.gloriadeilc.org

- What a Fellowship, What a Love Divine. Text & Music: Public Domain. Arrangement: Augsburg Fortress (OneLicense).
- I Saw a Stranger on the Road. Words: Anna Strickland. Music: English traditional, arranged by Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906. sanctifiedart.org.
- God Loved the World. Text & Music: Public Domain.
- Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace. Text & Arrangement: CPH Publishing (SESAC) (OneLicense). Tune: Public Domain.

Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
 Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23779.
 New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
 Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org.
 Permission to reprint/podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from CCLI License #30595699 and License #2534420 and from OneLicense.net with license #A-703850.