

April 5, 2026
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Easter Sunday



EASTER
Sunday

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Neenah, Wisconsin
Service of Holy Communion

Ministers
Worship Ministry

Everyone at Gloria Dei
Pastor Doug Holtz

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 is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

P This is the day

C hope tiptoes us awake; light guides us through the shadows.

P This is the day the Lord

C plants joy in our winter hearts; drowns out despair's cries with laughter.

P This is the day the Lord has made

**C the day grace does cartwheels in graveyards; resurrection wonder
outshines the brightest sun; an empty tomb fills us with good news.**

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the
Lamb!

C Amen.

P Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

P Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You
lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation:
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters
that nourish us: the Fox River, Lake Michigan, Little Lake Butte des Morts,
the Neenah Creek. Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.

P Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our
journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.


P Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break
down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are
you.

C You guide us to springs of the water of life.


P Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C Amen.


***GATHERING HYMN “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” ELW #365**




1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

***GREETING**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

"Thine Is the Glory"

ELW #376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Each morning, we put on those comfortable garments of burdens and worries,

C but now they are gone!

P Each day, we walk through life, our good and faithful friend, death, at our side, constantly whispering in our ears,

C but now he has disappeared!

P Each evening, we empty our fears out of our pockets, leaving them on top of the dresser,

C but now, they have been taken away!

P We could continue to live in the same old ways, the same old days. But now, resurrection life is ours, and we can sing, dance, and rejoice with you, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Joy in the Morning” One Voice Choir (both services)

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

“You’ll Be Surprised”

(sing verse 1 and 2 with refrain. There is no final refrain after verse 3)

Flowing:

Buy all the spices that you can afford.
 Who has been here? There's no stone on the tomb.
 "Mary," he said, "I am here! I'm alive!"

Show me the place where they laid my Lord.
 See where he lay, there's an empty room.
 O, what a sight for my grieving eyes.

I'll be okay, I'll be with him today,
 "Sir, could you say why they took him away,
 "Go, tell the rest to prepare for a guest."

fine

Je - sus, the one we a - dored.
 Je - sus, the one we a - dored?"
 Je - sus, the one we a - dored.

You'll be surprised when you open your eyes. See how the

stone has been rolled away. Just as he said, Je-sus rose from the

dead. See, he is with us today.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4

¹ If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded" Vs 1 ACS #933



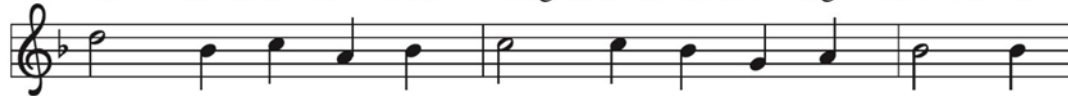
1 Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel
2 Day of de - light and beau - ty un - bound - ed, tell the news, the gos - pel



spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ
spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ



ris - en from the dead! Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap -
ris - en from the dead! Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to



pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing;
danc - ing; sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry;



sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the
sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of



stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor



wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!
last - ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

***GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10**

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Verse 2

turn back to page 7

SERMON

Pastor Doug Holtz

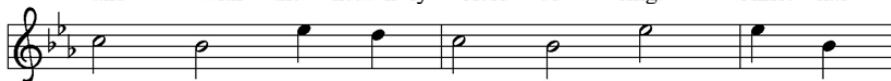
***SONG OF RESPONSE "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" ELW #367**



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
set heart and will on things a - bove that we
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the

an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly

here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***NICENE CREED**

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L God of new life.

C Hear our prayer.

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L The peace of Christ 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 "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" vs 1 ELW #369**

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!

***OFFERING PRAYER**

L God of all joy,
 C As we offer our gifts on this joyous morning, may we bring light to those in the shadows, laughter to all who mourn, and hope to those longing for life anew. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you. C And al - so 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.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P When he could have clung to your glory, God who alone is holy, Jesus chose to become human at that time, so we might be filled with your grace. When we stood against the wall wondering if anyone noticed us, he came to take us by the hand to teach us new dance steps. When our lives crumble around us and we lie scattered on the ground, he gathers us up, reshaping us into your beloved community. When we were unable to break the power of evil over us, he allowed sin to toss him aside like a pebble in a shoe, until he was raised from the tomb because you refuse to give us over to death.

On the night he was betrayed...As we stand before the empty tomb, celebrating the great news of this day, we have the gift of faith which is a mystery:

C Christ died, so sin could not hold on to us; Christ was raised, so death could not hold on to him; Christ will come, to hold us in steadfast love and hope.

P At this time, in this place, pour out your Spirit upon your people and on the gifts of the feast of the resurrection. May the bread which is broken open like the tomb, strengthen us so we may go to rebuild shattered hopes, to bind up the hurts of the world. May the cup which is filled with the fruits of your steadfast love, nourish us to leave the shadows of our fears and doubts to stand with the lonely and forgotten, to listen to the cries of the world.

And in that time to come, when we will be gathered with all our siblings of every place and of every moment, we will sing your praises, God in Community, Holy in One, as you hold on to us forever.

C Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C 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.**

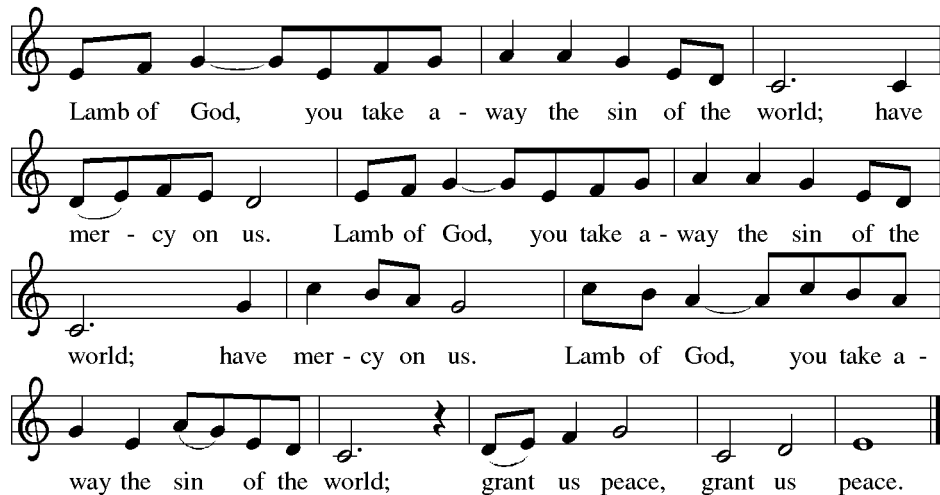
***WELCOME TO THE TABLE**

P Jesus, who is alive and present here with us, invites you to this festive table. Here is bread and wine in remembrance of him, prepared for you, his beloved siblings and friends. Come and be fed, that your joy may be complete.

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 Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

ELW #380



1 Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
2 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mourn - ful sigh?
3 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life e - ter - nal waits for you;
4 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice. Praise him, ran - somed of the earth.
5 Hal-le - lu - jah! An - gels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise.



from the gloom-y halls of death Christ, the con - quer - or, has gone,
Christ who died our broth - er here lives our broth - er still on high,
joined to Christ, your liv - ing head, where he is, you shall be too;
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.
Let your cho - rus swell the strain which our fee - bler voic - es raise:



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his church be - low.
with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a vic - tor you shall stand.
Praise the vic - tor king, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.
Glo - ry to our God a - bove and on earth his peace and love!

DISMISSAL

L Let us go with God into the world.

C We will offer healing and hope to all who wander in the shadows of life.

L Let us go with Jesus to serve others.

C We will listen to the ignored; we will speak out for the forgotten.

L Let us go with the Spirit to share steadfast love.

C We will hold on to the fallen; we will rebuild shattered communities.

L Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter Flowers on the altar have been given by:

Scott & Deb Barkholtz
Jenny & Paul Bonikowske in honor of our children and in
memory of our parents
Judy Brown
Mark & Marilyn Catlin in memory of our parents
Linda Evenson in memory of Mark Evenson
Sharon Grapengieser in memory of family
Ryan & Jennifer Helms in honor of our three daughters
Lana Hoks in memory of parents and friend
Karen Jewell-vanBuskirk in memory of my mom and dad
Mel & Veryl Kiekhaefer in memory of departed friends and relatives
Kruz Family in memory of Jim Larsen and Donna Hemp
Steve & Mary Kuehnl
Nick & Courtney Kurtz in memory of Mike and Ginny Fleck
Jim & Jane Lantz in memory of our parents
Dan & Becky Luett in memory of our parents
Bob & Julee Mansfield
Roger & Marlene Marks in memory of our parents
Michaud Family in memory of Lois Maki
Jason & Staci Miserlian in memory of grandparents Curry, Authier,
Lindquist, Miserlian
Dave & Kris Pohlman in memory of C.O. & Margaret Rogers
Don & Maxine Pohlman
Holly Robinson in memory of Millard & Sue Robinson
Jeaneen Schoessow in memory of Fritz Schoessow.
Annette & Don Sikma in memory of Judy Dunn and Barb Sikma
Dee Sim in memory of Bruce Sim and in memory of Bryan Engstrom
Swanson Family in memory of George & Irmgard Swanson,
Alfred Buehring, Jon Swanson, and Tom Swanson



Don't forget to take flowers home after the 10:30 service. If you are unable to take them home on Sunday, please let the church office know when you plan to pick them up. Thanks.

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
WORSHIP MINISTRY	Pastor Doug Holtz	Pastor Doug Holtz
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	Chris Drews	Michelle Higgins
LECTOR	Deb Barkholtz	Roger Herman
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jeaneen Schoessow Tom Riedasch	Becky Luett
USHERS	Scott Barkholtz	Don Reid
GREETERS	Linda Voss	
ACOLYTE	Ally Keck	Cayla Radtke
NURSERY ATTENDANT		
ALTAR GUILD	Marlene Marks	Marlene Marks
COFFEE HOST		
LIVE STREAMING		Ryan Helms

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (ELCA)
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920-725-6822

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