

May 10, 2026
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
6th Sunday of Easter



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

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be Holy God, who creates all good things, offers salvation † to all people, and guides us in every word and deed.

C Amen.

L What is our hope? Simply put, it is that God does not give up on us. With such good news, we can dare to bring our prayers to the One who will not cast aside our words or our hearts.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Knowing God,

C We admit that from plastic cards to websites, from handheld devices to stock options, we are surrounded by a variety of gods who demand our worship. We can all too easily believe that work is our life, that wealth is the reason for our being, and that success is the very air we breathe. Forgive us, God of mercy. You are not found in computer chip, but in the child who holds our hand. You are not a chatbot note, but the Word that can transform our very lives. You are not a disembodied, constantly recalculating voice, but the One who calls us to life, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Silence is kept.

P Despite everything we do, God loves us. This grace is why we can dare to hope.

C We will witness to this hope in every word we speak to every person we meet. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

C We glorify the One who holds our hands when we slip.

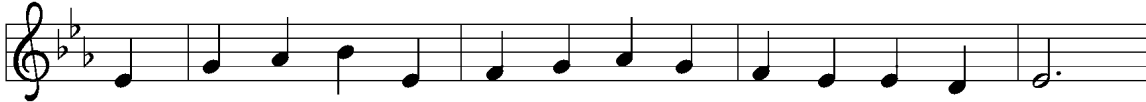
L Come into the presence of the One who calls us into this sacred space.

C Where the doors to grace are thrown open so all may enter.

L Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

C We will tell of the joy and of the love, of the peace and of the hope which is ours.

***GATHERING HYMN "My God, How Wonderful Thou Art" ELW #863**



1 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thy maj - es - ty how bright!
2 How won - der - ful, how beau - ti - ful the sight of thee must be—
3 No earth - ly fa - ther loves like thee; no moth - er, e'er so mild,
4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, al - might - y as thou art,
5 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thou ev - er - last - ing friend!



How beau - ti - ful thy mer - cy seat in depths of burn - ing light!
thine end - less wis - dom, bound - less pow'r, and awe - some pu - ri - ty!
bears and for - bears as thou hast done with me, thy sin - ful child.
for thou hast stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.
On thee I stay my trust - ing heart till faith in vi - sion end.

***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 When it doesn't seem to do any good, Creator God,

C we dare to be your people, to love those the world would have us reject; to be just in the face of every reason to mistreat; to be unafraid of whatever awaits us.

L When all the odds seem stacked against us, Jesus our Savior,

C we dare to live as your siblings, your family, serving others with our hands and hearts; sharing in the burdens of our world; refusing to leave justice orphaned with no hope.

L When the wind seems to be knocked out of us by the blows of life, Eternal Companion,

C we dare to breathe joy upon those caught in the net of hopelessness; peace into all the broken places around us; wonder for all those who have lost sight of you.

L In you, we dare to live and breathe and be through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' ²⁹ "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

P The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P Those who love me will keep my word, and my Fa-^lther will love them,* and we will come to them and make our^l home with them.

Repeat alleluia

***GOSPEL: John 14:15-21**

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Doug Holtz

***SONG OF RESPONSE**

“Loving Spirit”

ELW #397



- 1 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
- 2 Like a moth-er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
- 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
- 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close-ness I am known and held and blessed:
- 5 Lov - ing Spir-it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—



you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

***NICENE CREED**

L Together with all people of God, we profess our faith, using the words of the 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 Gracious God, C Hear our prayer.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

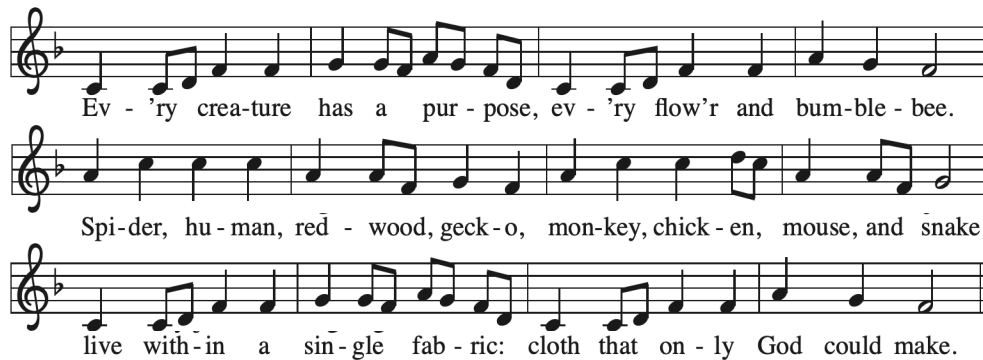
SHARING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

<p><i>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!</i></p>	
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***OFFERTORY "Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom" vs 2 ACS #1064**



2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.



Ev - 'ry crea-ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum-ble - bee.
Spi-der, hu - man, red - wood, geck-o, mon-key, chick - en, mouse, and snake
live with-in a sin-gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

L We pray together: Loving God,

C there are orphans all around us—abandoned by hope, forsaken by others, left behind by those who said they loved them. May the gifts we offer be a home, a family, a rest, and a respite for them and all the others around us. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION / GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P May the God who knows us be with you.

C And also with you.

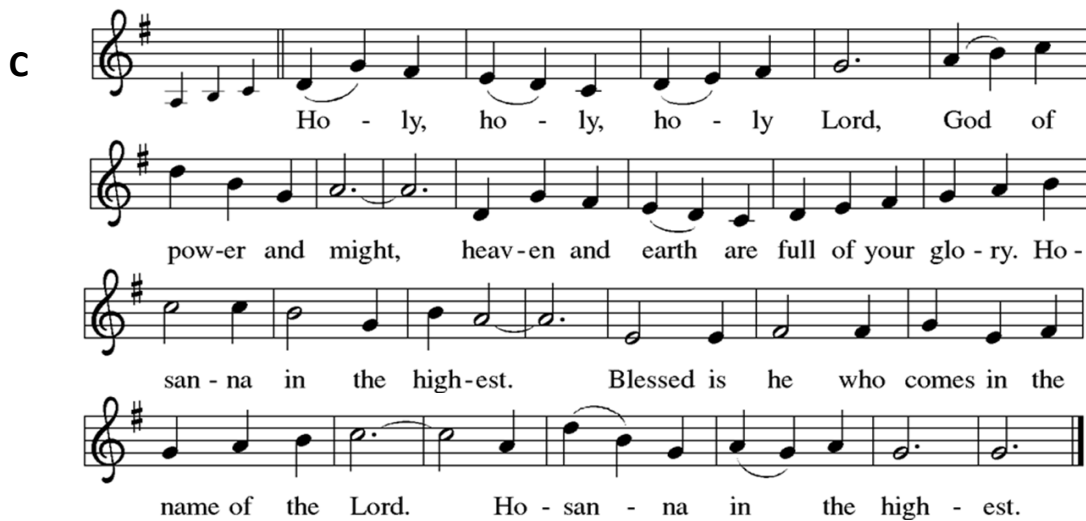
P Lift your hearts to the One who will not leave you stranded.

C We offer ourselves to God who is always with us.

P Bless God, all you who love the Lord.

C We sing praises to the One who loves us.

P You gathered that orphan, chaos, into your heart...we join in heaven's everlasting song:



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 You cannot be contained by any human imagining or endeavor, for you are the Holy God, and your Son, Jesus Christ, is our hope in life. When we could have been left as orphans in sin's foster home, he came to reveal himself as our sibling, our parent, our community, our life. When despair threatened to take away all our strength, he came to plant hope deep within us. When we thought death was our final destination, he came to show us the Resurrection Way home.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which he was betrayed...

As we remember the grace with which he loved us, as we welcome the Comforter he sent to us, we proclaim that mystery which is faith:

C Christ died, doing what was right for us; Christ was raised by the One who was in him; Christ will come, just as the hope within us witnesses to us.

P As your Spirit of truth comes in these moments to transform the bread and the cup and those gathered around the Table, you show us how much you love us. As we are strengthened by the broken Bread, you would send us to plant hope in all the places where pessimism has taken root; to help love stand on the corners where hate's gangs hang out. As you nourish us with the Cup, you would have us take peace into the warzones on human hearts; bringing healing to all the broken ones around us. And when we gather around that Table of love, with our siblings in grace, our enemies and friends seated side by side, as we pass grace to one another, we will join in forever singing your praises, as we celebrate your being in us as we are in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.**

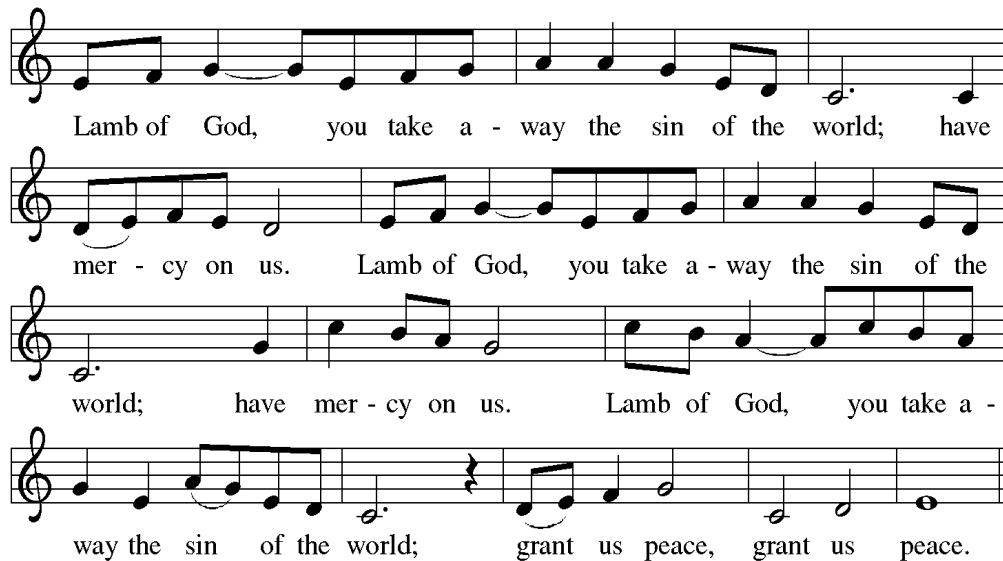
***WELCOME TO THE TABLE**

P Because Christ lives, so do we. God feeds us on this holy food and gives us all we need for this life. We are sent out nourished, refreshed to travel another day through this life God gives us freely. Come and eat at the table of grace!

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.

TABLE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ fortify you and keep you in God's grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L 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

"We Know That Christ Is Raised"

ELW #449



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

***DISMISSAL**

L Go from this place, speaking of what God has done.

C We will remind everyone that, despite everything, God loves us.

L Go from this place, singing of what God is doing.

C We will rejoice that God has not left us orphaned, but makes us one with everyone around us.

L Go from this place, imagining what God will do.

C We will witness to that hope which seems to distant, yet is as close to us as our hearts

L Go in peace. Share the good news.

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
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	Deb Barkholtz	Michelle Higgins
LECTOR	Deb Barkholtz	Michelle Higgins
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Valerie Gulke/ Allen Borgwardt	Linda Christianson
USHERS	Terry Gulke/ Nancy Swanson	
GREETERS	Allen Borgwardt/ Valerie Gulke	Don & Annette Sikma
ACOLYTE		
NURSERY ATTENDANT		Elise Wedge
ALTAR GUILD	Julee Mansfield	Julee Mansfield
COFFEE HOST	Valerie Gulke	Valerie Gulke
LIVE STREAMING		Vincent Guardiola

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