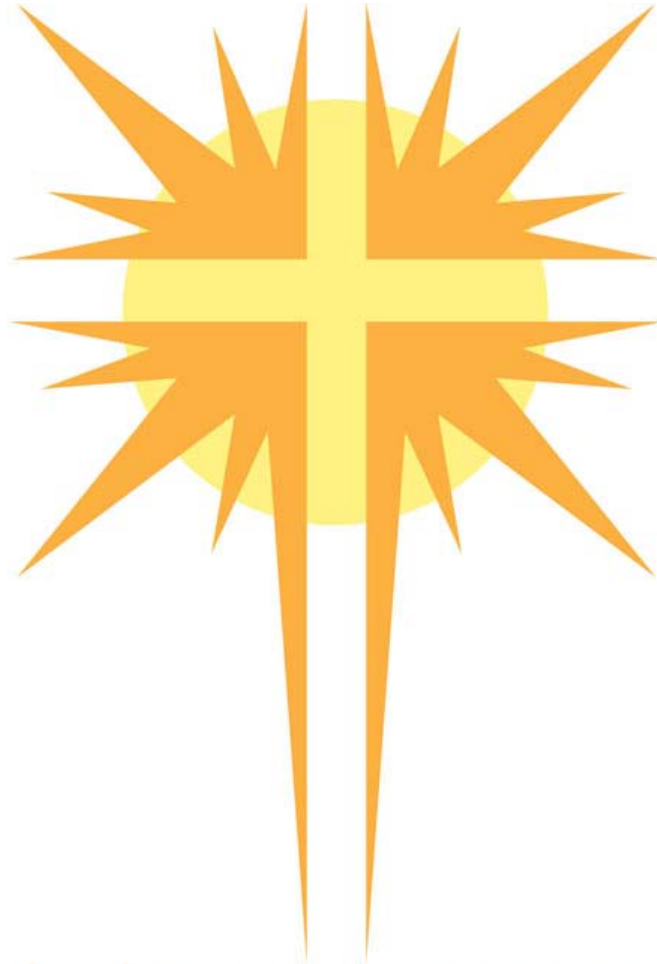


GLORIA DEI
LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE MEANING OF

CHRISTMAS

December 25TH, 2009

Welcome to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. We greet you in the name of Jesus Christ and welcome you to our church home. Please sign the perforated tear off sheet on the back cover of the bulletin. All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Lord's body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Everyone is invited to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion. Worshipers read or sing all boldface type marked "All." Large print bulletins are available from our ushers. Childcare is available in our nursery. Our ushers will be happy to assist you.

By Grace, God Gathers Us

PRELUDE: "*On Christmas Day in the Morning*" Moorhead

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(As Baptism is entry into the church, please turn and face the font)

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(As Baptism is entry into the Church, please turn and face the font)

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin,
 whose mercy endures forever.

ALL: Amen.

Pastor: Amid the darkness of this world, let us confess our sin
 and welcome the light of God's forgiveness.

(please kneel or sit as you are able)

Pastor: God of grace and truth,

**ALL: in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in the
 darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light,
 and have not trusted the good news of great joy.
 Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the
 fullness of your love, trusting in the grace of Christ our Lord.
 Amen.**

Pastor: The angel said, You shall call his name Jesus for he will save his people from their sins. With great joy, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN ***“The First Noel”***

*The first Noel the angels did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the king of Israel*

*They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them afar
And to the earth it gave great light
and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the king of Israel*

*This star drew near to the northwest
O’er Bethlehem it took it’s rest;
And there it did stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the king of Israel*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of Mary, be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”*

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."*

*Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.*

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!

Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.

*Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.*

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Pastor: All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace.

Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

(please be seated)

In Grace, God Empowers Us With The Word

FIRST LESSON:

Isaiah 62:6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels;
all day and all night they shall never be silent.

You who remind the LORD, take no rest, and give him no rest
until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the
earth.

The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies,
and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but
those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who
gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones,
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes;
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."

They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD";
and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

PSALM 97

(Please read responsively, with the congregation reading the bold print verses.)

The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.
Clouds and darkness surround the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

Fire goes before the LORD, burning up enemies on every side.
Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.
**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,
and all the peoples see your glory.**

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in
false gods! Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.
**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.**

For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.
**You who love the LORD, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints
and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart.
**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

SECOND LESSON: Titus 3:4-7

Reader: But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

(please stand, as you are able)

GOSPEL VERSE:



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

ALL: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL:

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON: "Let Us Go" Pastor Rosemary Backer

(please stand, as you are able)

HYMN OF THE DAY: "What Child is This"

*What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!*

*Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!*

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!*

NICENE CREED

**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;**

**By the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Joining our voices with all in heaven and on earth praising the Word made flesh in Jesus, let us pray for the world to which Christ comes, the church whom Christ calls, and all people in need whom Christ loves.

Kneel/Sit

After each petition of the prayers:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy **ALL: hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

Pastor: Come down to us, O God, and make your home with us, in us, and through us, for the sake of the one whose birth the angels sang and the shepherds proclaimed, Jesus Christ our Savior.

ALL: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

The worshipers may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

(please be seated)

In Grace, God Empowers Us With The Meal

THE OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Choral on “Cradle Song” G. Young*

(please stand, as you are able)

OFFERTORY: **“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”**

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;

Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the child is Lord of all.

Swiftly winging angels singing, Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:

Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new

Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:

Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.....Merciful God,

ALL: it would have been enough for you to give us the fruit of the earth by which we live. But in this meal, by your promise, you also give us your self. Use what we have gathered here in feeding the hungry world with your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER FOR THE NATIVITY

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, in the beginning
your Word brought light into the whole world.

In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection, we await his coming again
when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that,
held and nourished by you, we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the
Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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 HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Taste and see that the Lord is good

All: Thanks be to God.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church celebrates open communion. We understand the sharing of the bread and the cup in Jesus' name to be a representation of an ancient vision of God's feast for all peoples. We don't require you to be a member of this church to participate with us in this feast of grace – it is God's Table. Simply come forward at the usher's direction. The wafer will be given to you by the pastor, and the communion assistant will offer the cup for you to dip the wafer into the wine. White grape juice is available for those who are allergic, please ask the communion assistant.

LAMB OF GOD



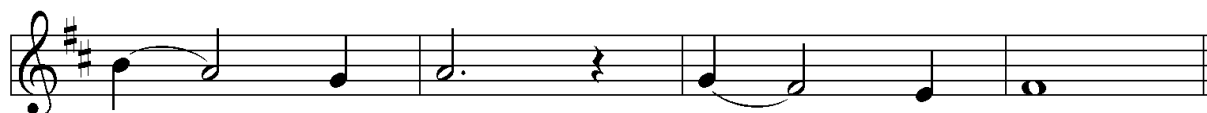
☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

(please stand, as you are able)

Pastor: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever.

All: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Savior.

All: Amen.

With Grace, God Sends Us

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May Christ, born into time to bring endless peace, guide your days and years in righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

All: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*

Refrain:

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.*

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.*

Refrain:

*The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angels chorus that hailed the Savior's birth.*

Refrain:

*Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.*

Refrain:

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *“Noel”* Daquin



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Name	Dedication
Pastor Rosemary Backer	In Memory of Helen & Warren Wheeler . In Honor of The Hyres Family and The Closs Family
Lavinia & Don Bailey	In memory of Loved Ones
Mandy & Dick Baker	In Memory of Roy S. Longenecker, Robert C. Cupp and Robert Lee Baker
Susan & John Bonser	In memory of our parents
Claudia Christensen	In memory of my husband, Gerald
The Diesing Family	In Memory of William Diesing
Jim & Jeanne Finn	In Memory of Our Parents
Ella Fullin	In Memory of Fred Fullin, Beloved Husband. In Honor of Commander Robert William Eadie IV
Donald Good & Judith Neale	In Honor of my mother, Louise Good and In Memory of my mother, Irma Bantham.
Krisann David & Kevin Grandstaff	In Memory of Our Parents Mr. & Mrs. Oren Grandstaff. In Honor of Amanda Andreas, Hailey Andreas and Kyleen Grandstaff
Grenadene Harder	In Memory of Ray Harder
Olga Ippedico	In memory of my husband, Nicholas Ippedico
Gerhard & Karin John	In Memory of Grandmother, Lena Stange
Ann Johnson	In Memory of my Beloved Mother, Peggy Johnson
Judy Johnson	In Honor of Pam Flow and Family
Vera Kersell	In Memory of Jim Kersell
Mary Marz	In memory of Arthur Marz
Mary & Al Miller	In Memory of Our Parents
Rein & Ellen Mueller	In Memory of our parents, Ernst Mueller and Lester & Alice Bell. In Honor of Gertrud Mueller
RuthAnn Jacobsen & Mike Mulyck	To honor our grandsons, Charlie and Max
Chris & Kim Phillips	In Honor of Our Blessings from God, Cade and Benjamin
David Stasney	In Honor of the Gloria Dei Musicians. In Honor of Pastor Rosemary. In Memory of Loved Ones.
Gary & Carol Sweet	In Memory of Our Parents and In Honor of the Sweet Family

Thank you to the musicians of the Gloria Dei Family for all of their dedication and support of our Music Ministry. Special thanks to Estelle Schultz for sharing her talents with us for Christmas Eve. Thank you also to the “Willingham Ringers” – the hand bells always add that special something to our festive worship experience.

Merry Christmas,

David L. Stansney, Director of Music

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
“God’s Work, Our Hands”



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Rev. Rosemary W. Backer, Pastor

David Stasney, Organist

& Choir Director

Kim Phillips, Office Administrator

Dolores Dunn, Domestic Engineer

Richard Baker ‘11

President

Worship & Music

Committee

Bill Wamester ‘11

Vice-President

Finance Team

Shirley Mundell ‘11

Secretary

Bill Stemm ‘11

Treasurer

Lavinia Bailey ‘11

Caring Board

Donald Good ‘11

Stewardship Board

Ted Griffith ‘09

Property

Rein Mueller ‘11

Property

Beverly Orchard ‘11

Brian Orr ‘10

Norma Wamester ‘11

Fellowship-Special

Events

RuthAnn Jacobson

Altar Guild