

Participants in Sunday leadership for April, 2025

Date	Reader	Liturgist (Prayers)	Usher	Coffee Host
Apr 6	Kim	Lexy	Jerry	Doreen
Apr 13	Katharine	Helen	Ralph	Kim
Apr 18	Susan & Karen	—	Ralph	—
Apr 20	Cathy D.	Monica	Jerry & Merv	EASTER
Apr 27	Pam	Susan	Larry	

Readings and prayers are available on the "Sunday Service" page of our website.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is located on Treaty One territory, the homeland of the Red River Metis, and the ancestral lands of the Anishinabeg, Ininiwak, Dakota Oyate, Anisininew, and Dene peoples.

We strive to be an open and affirming congregation to all, welcoming persons of every race, culture, age, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status. We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism and creating an anti-racist space. We believe that through our openness, we all grow in our faith following Christ's model of love, respect, kindness, and generosity.



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*Christ, our companion, hope for the journey,
bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning
that all creation with you may rise.*

ELW #374

Our lives of faith ask of us that we extend grace, and that we give ourselves completely.

The story of Holy Week points us to the cross. That is the image of ultimate grace and ultimate gift. How do we engage that journey to the cross? How do we give of ourselves completely?

Life in our culture sometimes makes a journey of faith difficult – for reasons that we are often discouraged from showing grace, and we are discouraged from sharing and giving generously... let alone *completely*.

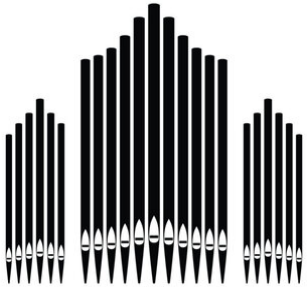
Can we embrace the call to be gracious in our interactions with our neighbours, and maybe even with our enemies? Can we consider how we give of ourselves, and give in ways we haven't given before? (What might it be like to give up a place in line, or to give up a special privilege for the sake of another having an opportunity?)

It may be that our call in faith is what our society and world needs in this moment more than ever. When we might be tempted to cut a person off in traffic, maybe we let them in! When we may be encouraged to snap back hastily and with an edge to our words in a comment on social media, maybe we pause and consider the real person receiving the message and how that builds or tears down a connection.

Our Easter call – new life – is to see the humanity in others, and to show love.
- *Pastor Tyler*

Noon Hour Lenten Series with the RCCO

featuring Gloria Dei's Casavant Pipe Organ



Our weekly mid-day Lenten Series in collaboration with the lovely organists of the Royal Canadian College of Organists continues until Wednesday, April 9.

Services start at 12:15pm.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday—April 13, 10:30am

Maundy Thursday—April 17, 5:00pm

→ Potluck Agape meal & stripping of the alter

Good Friday—April 18, 10:30am

Easter Sunday—April 20, 10:30am

→ Easter Breakfast at 9:30am



Church Garage Sale

Gloria Dei is resurrecting the annual church garage sale! The event will occur on May 2-3 (Friday-Saturday), with our annual yard cleanup happening on Saturday morning at 9am.



We are currently looking for volunteers to help run the events. Please contact Ralph to get involved.

Make sure you're subscribed to our weekly e-news to stay up to date on everything Gloria Dei!

Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures

World Health Day, celebrated on April 7, 2025, will kick off a year-long campaign on maternal and newborn health. The campaign, titled *Healthy beginnings, hopeful futures*, will urge governments and the health community to ramp up efforts to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths, and to prioritize women's longer-term health and well-being.



Tragically, about 300,000 women lose their life due to pregnancy or childbirth each year, while over 2 million babies die in their first months and millions are stillborn. Based on current trends, a staggering 4/5 countries are off track to meet global targets for improving maternal survival by 2030.

Health systems must evolve to manage the many health issues that impact maternal and newborn health. These not only include direct obstetric complications but also mental health conditions, noncommunicable diseases, and family planning.

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day>

Earth Day – April 22

Earth Day 2025



Our Power, Our Planet



The theme for Earth Day 2025 is **OUR POWER, OUR PLANET**, which invites people around the globe to unite behind renewable energy, and to triple the the global generation of clean energy by 2030.

Tuesday, April 22, is the 55th anniversary of Earth Day!
We will be lifting up Earth Day in worship on April 29!

<https://www.earthday.org/>

“Jesus is both the seed that fell into the earth and died to bear much fruit, and the cosmic gardener who has come to bring abundant life for all.”

- Sundays and Seasons

Birthdays Coming up in April

Linda Herman
Ryan Hall
Regen Roche
Krista Hansen
Ken Milburn
Jade Anderson
Bernice Carlson
Bradley Oswald

Kristie Oswald
Craig Judt
Carol Maruk
Tyler Hansen
Benjamin Judt
Michael Gingrich
Leah Single
Jill Bright



World Art Day – April 15



Each year, on April 15, World Art Day celebrations help reinforce the links between artistic creations and society, encourage greater awareness of the diversity of artistic expressions and highlight the contribution of artists to sustainable development.

Did you know Gloria Dei has an art group? They meet on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 in the fellowship hall for a time of creation and socialization. Artists of all levels are invited to join. Cost is \$2 a session, and those attending must bring their own supplies/mediums.

Canada Book Week – April 15-21

The idea behind Canada Book Week is to encourage and promote the habit of reading. It is essential to establish and maintain a reading culture as early as possible to lay the foundation for a forward-thinking and innovation-driven society due to a constant search for information and knowledge. <https://nationaltoday.com/canada-book-week/>



The power of books and story is invaluable. We must do all we can to preserve the love and importance of this art. Consider picking up a book, gifting a book, or joining a book club/reader group. (Like Gloria Dei's Coffee Hour & Study group, which meets Thursday mornings on Zoom.)
The Children's Hospital Book Market is April 25-27 at St Vital Mall!

"20th Century Christian Martyrs Film Festival"

On April 9th, we commemorate Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who died in a concentration camp in Germany on April 9, 1945 (80 years ago).

On March 24th, we commemorated Oscar Romero, who was assassinated on March 24, 1980 (45 years ago).

Bonhoeffer and Romero, along with Martin Luther King Jr (died April 4, 1968) are considered three great martyrs of the faith of the 20th Century.

On **April 27**, **May 11**, and **May 25**, we'll screen films about their lives after church – our Confirmation class will be watching, and anyone else is welcome to join in! *"Bring a snack!"*




2025 Federal Election

Gloria Dei will be open for voting on Election Day, April 28.

Make sure to VOTE

More information: www.elections.ca

April 2025

	April 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 1:00 – GD Quilting	2 9:30 – Casual Art Group 12:15 – Lenten Service w/ RCCO	3 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	4 Weekly e-news	5	
6 10:30 – Worship (Lent 5)	7 Pastor’s Day Off World Health Day	8 1:00 – GD Quilting	9 9:30 – Casual Art Group 12:15 – Lenten Service w/ RCCO	10 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	11 Weekly e-news	12	
13 10:30 – Worship (Palm Sunday)	14 Pastor’s Day Off	15 1:00 – GD Quilting Church Council Meeting World Book Week World Art Day	16 9:30 – Casual Art Group	17 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B 6:30pm - Maundy Thursday Agape Meal & Worship	18 Weekly e-news 10:30 – Good Friday Worship	19	
20 9:00 – Easter Breakfast 10:30 – Worship (Easter)	21 Pastor’s Day Off	22 1:00 – GD Quilting Earth Day	23 9:30 – Casual Art Group	24 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	25 Weekly e-news	26 Camino Manitoba Peguis Treaty Walk	
27 10:30 – Worship (Easter 1)	28 Pastor’s Day Off Federal Election Day	29 1:00 – GD Quilting	30 9:30 – Casual Art Group	Office Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays 9am-2pm			 Gloria Dei <small>LUTHERAN CHURCH</small>