

Participants in Sunday leadership for January, 2025

Date	Reader	Liturgist (Prayers)	Usher	Coffee Host
Jan 5	Cathy D.	Monica	Merv	
Jan 12	Pam	Jennifer	Larry	
Jan 19	Kim	Susan	Jerry	
Jan 26	Karen	Lexy	Ralph	

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.



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
637 Buckingham Rd
Winnipeg, MB,
R3R 1B9

www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org
(204) 832-4564

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*Joyful, all you nations, rise; Jesus, the Light of the world;
join the triumph of the skies; Jesus, the Light of the world.*

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,

come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.

Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the Light of the world.

ACS 914

If nothing else, we are called to bring light to the world!

The Advent-Christmas-Epiphany journey is about light coming out of darkness: a new creation, a new day, a new relationship with God. We also lift up this relationship with God, and Jesus' presence and life, as we join in the Eucharistic feast – and we go from the Table into the world to be bearers of light.

A recent *Eternity for Today* devotion reflected on how young people, today, do not have a memory of bursting-at-the-seams church attendance, and hearing the church described as dying can be perplexing.

Perhaps part of the new story we live into, today, is giving thanks for who we are and what we have to offer in this day! Perhaps we make a move out of darkness, ourselves, when we pay special attention to the good things going on in our midst, and the signs of hope and life all around (*wasn't it great to dedicate our renovated hall, and have lunch together in that beautiful space in December?*).

This new calendar year brings a sense of new beginnings, and we can set new goals. Joining with all the saints who have gone before us, what light might we bring to the world, today? There is a world longing for hope, peace, joy, and new life – we know a message of grace, and have good news to share!

May Gloria Dei be a place of welcome and inclusion, and *light* in 2025!

- Pastor Tyler

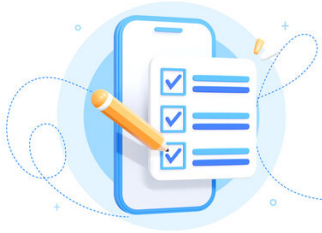
Baby Shower for Mary & Jesus

There's still time to contribute to the baby shower for Mary and Jesus! A giving celebration will occur on Sunday, January 12 (Baptism of Our Lord Sunday) following worship. All donations will be going to The Urban and St. James Women's Centre.



Please see the e-news for a list of needed items.

Congregational Survey



Gloria Dei's Church Council invites you to participate in the 2024/25 Congregational Survey! There are both online and paper options available. The survey is completely anonymous, and we encourage you to be honest and faithful in your responses.

The online survey can be accessed at <https://forms.gle/b1sLs6YEP9z1KXFW8>.

Save the Date!

Gloria Dei's Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday, March 9th, immediately following worship.

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

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25)

Do you believe this?

John 11:26



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an annual ecumenical celebration. Christians around the world are invited to pray for the unity of all Christians, to reflect on scripture together, to participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services, and to share fellowship.

The year 2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the first Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, in the year 325. The commemoration of this event in 2025 will provide a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the Creed formulated during this Council.

The guiding biblical text for 2025 WPCU is taken from the Gospel of John 11:17-27. The theme for the 2025 Week of Prayer is, "Do you believe this?" (John 11:26). The theme comes from the dialogue between Jesus and Martha when Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary in Bethany following the death of their brother Lazarus.

In Winnipeg, an ecumenical planning team has put together a series of events and services to guide us through the 2025 WPCU. Consider attending one of the many services, which you can find online at <https://shorturl.at/ZsyU7>.

Here are a few services that might be of interest:

Sunday, January 19 (Day 2)

Ecumenical City-Wide Service (includes ecumenical choir)
7:30pm at Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church (1001 Grant Ave)

Tuesday, January 21 (Day 4)

The Paschal Mystery: the incarnation, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus
7:30pm at St. John's Cathedral (**Anglican**) (135 Anderson Ave)

Wednesday, January 22 (Day 5)

The Holy Spirit, the giver of life and joy
7:30pm at Charleswood United Church (4820 Roblin Blvd)

<https://shorturl.at/dYGXN>

Birthdays Coming up in January

Sarah Gingrich
Veronika Ring
Sandra Fritz
Arlene Miller
Irene Snell
Audrey Lebedeff
Kim Hewlett
Katherine Nazar
Larry Ring
Herman Yaeger
Jennifer Caron
Kay Johnson

Herman Yaeger
Jennifer Caron
Kay Johnson
Brenley Isleifson
Rhett Hall
Merv Fitz
Loreen Hansen
Marlene Buffie



CLAY Gathering 2025



The Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering (CLAY) is a travelling biennial event that's hosted by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) and the Anglican Church of Canada (ACC) for youth ages 14-19. The mission of these gatherings is to enrich and educate the youth of the church in a fun and interactive environment, while proclaiming and responding to God's grace and faithfulness in intentional, practical, and meaningful ways.

This year, CLAY takes place from August 21-24 in Saskatoon, SK. Those interested in attending should be in contact with either Pastor Tyler or Lexy.

While CLAY is an event that enriches spiritual lives, it unfortunately isn't free. If you would like to contribute to the Gloria Dei youth fund to help send our youth to CLAY, please indicate so on your offering envelope.

Soup Mixes—Youth Fundraiser

Remember the soup mixes we all know and love? They're coming back! All proceeds made from soup mix sales will go towards Gloria Dei's youth fund to help send our youth to CLAY!



Christian Education – Book Study starting in January



“When Jesus talked about the Reign of God, he was talking about an utterly different way of relating to one another. He lays out a blueprint for this alternative lifestyle in his best-known teaching, the Sermon on the Mount. From the Beatitudes onward, the Sermon on the Mount overturns conventional wisdom and traditional power structures, offering an alternative plan for an authentic life.

In this revised and newly titled book, *Jesus' Alternative Plan*, Richard Rohr explores the implications of Jesus' vision, and goes through the teachings, explaining the historical and cultural context of each verse and offering guidance for what it means for humanity today.”

Our new book study will be **Thursday mornings, starting January 16th** – *grab a copy of the book, and join in!*

A Shining Light

(inspired by Ephesians 5:8-10)

Jesus, You are the Light of the World.
Shine Your light in me today.
Chase away the darkness of sin,
the darkness of fear and doubt and
despair.

Fill me with the light of Your truth, Your
Word.

Produce in me the fruit of righteousness –
the evidence that Your

Holy Spirit lives in me
and works in me and works through me.

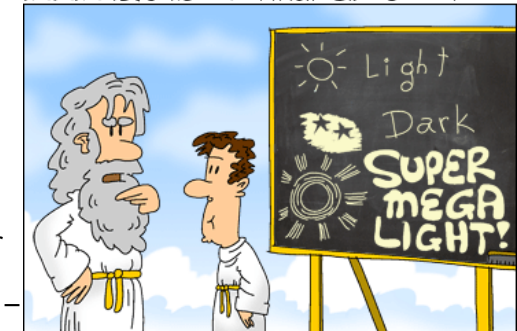
Teach me what is pleasing to You.

Make me a shining example of Your amazing grace,
redeeming love, and life-changing power.

May others be drawn to You through me.

Amen.

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(See Genesis 1:1-2:3)

03-08-2013

LET'S GO WITH JUST LIGHT AND DARK FOR
NOW AND WE CAN ITERATE LATER AS NEEDED

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Church Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday 9am-2pm			1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2	3 Weekly e-news	4
			5 10:30 – Worship (Christmas 2)	6 Pastor's Day Off	7 1:00 – GD Quilting	8 9:30 – Casual Art Group
12 10:30 – Worship (Baptism of Our Lord) Baby Shower for Mary & Jesus	13 Pastor's Day Off	14 1:00 – GD Quilting	15 9:30 – Casual Art Group	16 8:00 – Men's Breakfast 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	17 Weekly e-news	18 "Confession of Peter" Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins
19 10:30 – Worship (Epiphany 2)	20 Pastor's Day Off	21 1:00 – GD Quilting Church Council Meeting	22 9:30 – Casual Art Group	23 8:00 – Men's Breakfast 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	24 Weekly e-news	25 "Conversion of Paul" Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends
26 10:30 – Worship (Epiphany 3) RIC Sunday	27 Pastor's Day Off	28 1:00 – GD Quilting Worship Committee Meeting	29 9:30 – Casual Art Group	30 8:00 – Men's Breakfast 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	31 Weekly e-news	 Gloria Dei LUTHERAN CHURCH