

Participants in Video Devotions for April, 2022

Date	Worship Assistant (Psalm)	Reader (OT & NT readings)	Prayer leader
April 3	Jett	Christa	Monica
April 10	Tom		
Thurs, April 14	Monica		
Fri, April 15	Jett		[pastor]
April 17	Monica		Jett
April 24	Tom		Monica

Readings and prayers available on the "Sunday Service" page (and archive) of our website. Video clips need to be submitted in advance; contact Pastor Tyler if unclear about parts.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is located on original lands of Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

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*Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonoured, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind you call to hear, your love to find.*

ELW #358

Our baptismal journey is one to the cross, and rising to new life. Our Lenten journey traces that baptismal journey, and we give thanks for new beginnings – new life, showing us that death has not had the final word.

We are finding ways to gather in-person, once again, as this pandemic time seems to be moving to a place where we are safer. We are still mindful of strains on our health care system, so we take precautions as we gather – wearing masks indoors, keeping some distance.

As we move through Holy Week, let's look for the connections to our daily life. Where have we gathered around tables in loving fellowship? Where have we felt alone, having felt betrayal or perhaps even betrayed another in some way?

And, looking towards new life... where are the signs of hope? Where are the places where relationships might be mended, or rebuilt, or new ones formed? In our congregational life, where might we enter into this new time, perhaps engaging in ways we haven't before? How might we see beyond places where we once were?

God's love *has* called us, and we, by love, for love, were made!
May the blessings of new life in this Springtime season be yours!

-Pastor Tyler

WHAT CAN BE FOUND ONLINE?

We are making a gradual return to in-person gatherings. We had our first Sunday morning service back in our sanctuary on March 20th.

As we make this change – this “return,” we might say – we are mindful of those who wish to gather in-person and are comfortable with closeness, and we are mindful of those who are still navigating these changes and wanting to be careful. As we gather – online and in-person – we have a mix of everyone, all being at varying degrees of caution and comfort, these days.

Please be patient. Please be kind.

We are working to meet needs as best we can – so there are in-person options for gathering, as well as online.

Wednesdays – 9:30am Virtual Coffee Hour

To join in these social times, follow the link provided in the e-news.



We are working at a livestream set-up in our sanctuary, so part of our return to in-person worship can include a means of reaching beyond our church walls *while* we gather in our building.

Find us on YouTube!

Links for online worship can also be found on our website under “Sunday Service.”



www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org



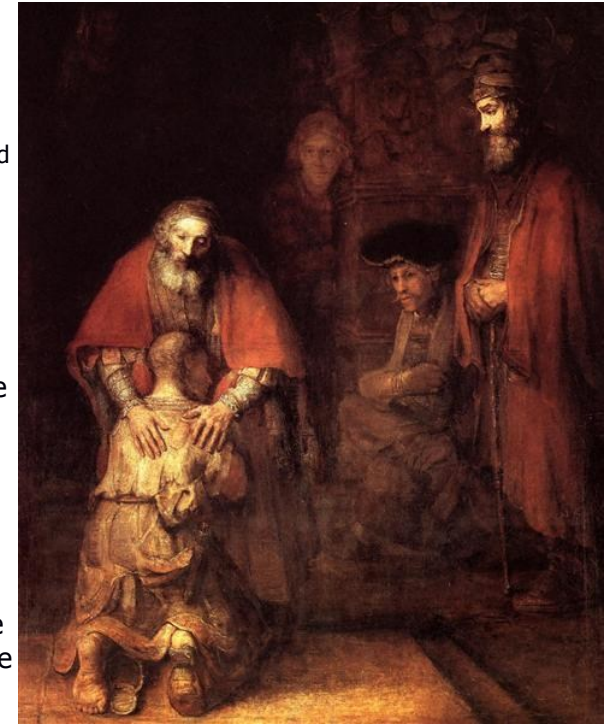
From Henri Nouwen's **The Return of the Prodigal Son**

an excerpt reflecting on the parable from Luke's gospel, and the painting by Rembrandt

What happened to the son in the distant country [the younger one who took his inheritance and left]? Aside from all the material and physical consequences, what were the inner consequences of the son's leaving home? The sequence of events is quite predictable. The farther I run away from the place where God dwells, the less I am able to hear the voice that calls me the Beloved, and the less I hear that voice, the more entangled I become in the manipulations and power games of the world.

It goes somewhat like this: I am not so sure anymore that I have a safe home, and I observe other people who seem to be better off than I. I wonder how I can get to where they are. I try hard to please, to achieve success, to be recognized. When I fail, I feel jealous or resentful of these others. When I succeed, I worry that others will be jealous or resentful of me. I become suspicious or defensive and increasingly afraid that I won't get what I so much desire or will lose what I already have. Caught in this triangle of needs and wants, I no longer know my own motivations. I feel victimized by my surroundings and distrustful of what others are doing or saying. Always on my guard, I lose my inner freedom and start dividing the world into those are for me and those who are against me. I wonder if anyone really cares. I start looking for validations of my distrust. And wherever I go, I see them, and I say: “No one can be trusted.” And then I wonder whether *anyone* ever really loved me. The world around me becomes dark. My heart grows heavy. My body is filled with sorrows. My life loses meaning. I have become a lost soul.

(from the chapter titled, “The Younger Son's Return,” pp.46-47)





EARTH DAY

April 22

Every year on April 22, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

In the decades leading up to the first Earth Day, Americans were consuming vast amounts of leaded gas through massive and inefficient automobiles. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of the consequences from either the law or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. Until this point, mainstream America remained largely oblivious to environmental concerns and how a polluted environment threatens human health.

However, the stage was set for change with the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries as it raised public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and the inextricable links between pollution and public health.

Earth Day 1970 would come to provide a voice to this emerging environmental consciousness, and putting environmental concerns on the front page.

The Earth Day 2022 Theme is *Invest In Our Planet*.

This is the moment to change it all — the business climate, the political climate, and how we take action on climate. Now is the time for the unstoppable courage to preserve and protect our health, our families, our livelihoods... together, we must Invest In Our Planet. Because a green future is a prosperous future.

We need to act (boldly), innovate (broadly), and implement (equitably). It's going to take all of us. All in. Businesses, governments, and citizens — everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable. A partnership for the planet.

(<https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2022/>)

Check out Gloria Dei's "Creation Care" page on our website!

Easter Flowers

If you wish to make a memorial donation toward flowers for Easter, please place your donation and memorial information on the offering plate or contact Karen Hayden in the church office.

Worship Committee will be shopping for flowers the week just prior to Easter Sunday for placement in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.



Did you know...?

Easter falls on the first Sunday after the Full Moon date, based on mathematical calculations, that falls on or after March 21. If the Full Moon is on a Sunday, Easter is celebrated on the following Sunday. Although Easter is liturgically related to the beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere (March equinox) and the Full Moon, its date is not based on the actual astronomical date of either event.

- March 21 is the Church's date of the March equinox, regardless of the time zone, while the actual date of the equinox varies between March 19 and March 22, and the date depends on the time zone.
- The date of the *Paschal Full Moon*, used to determine the date of Easter, is based on mathematical approximations following a 19-year cycle called the *Metonic cycle*.

Both dates *may* coincide with the dates of the astronomical events, but in some years, they don't.

(<https://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/determining-easter-date.html>)