

Participants in Video Devotions for April, 2021

Date	Worship Assistant (Psalm)	Reader (reading)	Prayer leader
April 1 Maundy Thurs	Tom R	Christa M	Monica P
April 2 Good Fri	Readers: Jett I, Kara R, Katharine B, Kim D, Marilyn C		
April 4	Jett I	Pam R	Tim L
April 11	Jett I	Monica P	Kim D
April 18	Christa M	Tim L	Pam R
April 25	Kara R	Tom R	Jett I

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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The Gloria Daily

April, 2021

www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org

Vol 2. No. 4

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

EvLW #379

On the last Sunday of Lent – March 21st – we heard that verse from John’s gospel, “unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.” (John 12:24) It is a stark contrast between death and life, the old and the new.

I like the comparisons made in the hymn, “Now the Green Blade Rises,” which draws on the verse from John’s gospel. The image is one for Spring, and we adopt that in our Easter imagery as well: the cycle of life where the thing that is buried gives way to new life. Life, even, that doesn’t resemble the seed at all; life that is bold, and brimming with colour and vibrancy unseen at all in the small seed.

The Easter story about resurrection and new life is not something reserved for Christians, or something magical that came about with Jesus; the Easter story is one that points to a new day much like Spring’s return after winter’s rest. The warming of the earth making way for new life to burst forth out of the ground.

This year, with the vaccine becoming more and more available, we are hopeful for an emergence – that new life may show itself before long in our community. What do you imagine? What might be shed and make way for new life in our midst?

I’m excited for an unknown future! As the hymnist says, God can call us back to life again!

-Pastor Tyler

Wednesdays – 9:30am Virtual Coffee Hour

Sundays – 9:30am Bible Study,

10am time of prayer:

zoom

-those who are ill

-those who have experienced loss

-those celebrating birthdays, and other good news

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

Once per month, our prayer time includes online Eucharist (see calendar) – have some bread and juice ready!



Holy Week

Holy Week at Gloria Dei

Find our services on YouTube!

Maundy Thursday – Zoom liturgy at 6pm

– online worship available by 7pm

Good Friday – online worship available by 10:30am

Easter Vigil – joint online worship with MNO congregations

Easter Sunday – Zoom online Eucharist at 10am

– online worship available by 10:30am

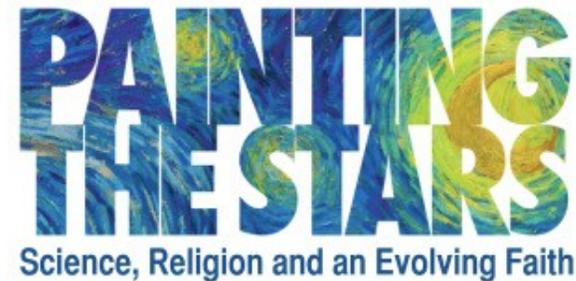
Note that our online worship will be on our YouTube (the YouTube link will be provided on our Facebook page)

@GloriaDeiWinnipeg

"Conflicts do arise between our deeply held traditions and the fast-paced unfolding of scientific knowledge. E.O. Wilson said that we exist in a bizarre combination of stone age emotions, medieval beliefs, and God-like technology, so is it any wonder that there are sometimes areas of conflict?"

Or are there ways of rethinking and reframing our theology to create a less suspicious and contentious engagement with the challenges and discoveries emerging from the new knowledge and insights of science?"

(Rev Dr Barbara Rossing, *Lutheran seminary prof, and scholar in study series*)



It is most interesting to hear Biblical scholars & theologians express ideas and concepts which address some of my concerns, as a lay person have had with many of the teachings I was brought up with in the church.

To date I've enjoyed the series 'Painting With The Stars'. It builds on and compliments the session 'Living the Question' which we studied a few years back. The concept that science and biblical teachings are not in conflict, rather our interpretation/spin on the biblical teachings of the creation story, is what closes our minds to science and its discoveries, resonates with me. This is consistent with my personal beliefs. The idea that creation is continuing here and now, and not static per Genesis, but continuing to evolve is OK with me. I personally agree.

The idea that our religious beliefs should also evolve and not remain static/stagnant, constrained by words written 2000 years ago is also OK with me. The majority of the thoughts expressed by the speakers in this series reflect some of my own thoughts and have caused me to think beyond where I'm currently at. Although the consent of Jesus being 'cosmic' is a step beyond where I'm at or prepared to currently go.

-John Fritz

On April 9th, we commemorate Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi dissident, and key founding member of the Confessing Church. His writings on Christianity's role in the secular world have become widely influential, and his book *The Cost of Discipleship* has been described as a modern classic.



Camino Manitoba

is a social enterprise rooted in values that stem from faith!

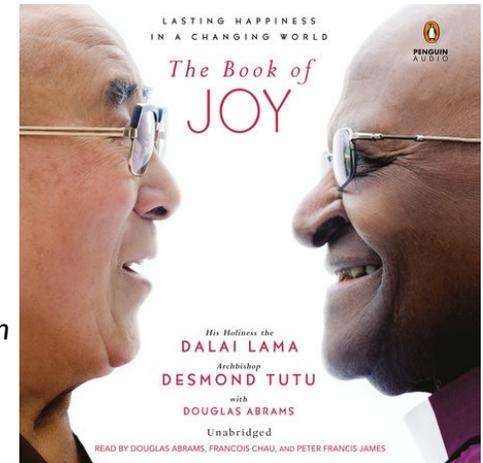
Pastor Tyler is part of the organizing committee, and looks forward to some long walks being planned for May and July/August! For more information, and to register to join in, see the website:

www.CaminoManitoba.ca

In April, our Bible Study will be starting into

“The Book of Joy”

by the Dalai Lama and Bishop Desmond Tutu
This three-part documentation of a week-long meeting between two of the world's most renowned spiritual leaders is crafted by author and activist



Douglas Abrams. The topic of the week was joy. More specifically, the men attempted to create a road-map for ordinary people to cultivating a lasting sense of joy in their life, regardless of their suffering.

Subscribe to Gloria Dei's YouTube channel! Starting Easter

YouTube Sunday, video devotions will only be posted there (and, while a link will be posted to Facebook, the service will not be stored or viewed together on Facebook)



April 22 is Earth Day

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated around the world on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First celebrated in 1970, it now includes events coordinated globally by the

Earth Day Network in more than 193 countries.

Actions you might consider taking: Calculate your personal carbon footprint (there are websites where you can do this for free) and make changes to reduce it; pledge to use reusable grocery bags; reduce food waste by composting; help protect pollinators (like bees) by pledging to go pesticide-free! We need pollinators to ensure the persistence of our crop yields and ensure healthy sustainable ecosystems now and in the future. For more: www.EarthDay.org