

## Participants in Sunday leadership for March, 2023

Date	Reader	Liturgist	Greeter	Acolyte
Mar 5	Jennifer	Tom	Ralph	Adelina
Mar 12	Monica	Tom	Jerry	Ellie
Mar 19	Pam	Jett	Larry	Anna
Mar 26	Jett	Jennifer	Ralph	Adelina

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

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is located on original lands of Anishinaabe, Cree, Ojibwe-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.

Each of us is a unique creation drawn into being by the Source of Life. While committed to the Christian path, we do not all believe the exact same things; there is room at Gloria Dei for doubt, exploration, and diversity.

We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts among us. We strive to be an open and affirming congregation to all, welcoming and including in our ministry 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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# The Gloria Daily

March, 2023

www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org

Vol 4. No. 3

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*Turn my heart, O God. Turn my heart, O God.  
Take my pain and brokenness; shape my life for you.  
Come and turn my heart, O God.*

In Lent, we are invited to take time to pray, to fast (whether that may mean giving up food, or maybe being disciplined about how we consume different things), and to give charitably. Our worship takes on a more reflective tone. Why do we do these things? In Lent, there is also something of a formation, or *re-formation*, of us – that we may be molded and re-shaped, that our hearts may turn from previous ways.

We acknowledge how our lives are often curbed-in-on-self – seeking our personal wants and needs, and neglecting the needs of others and the common good. We are called to turn outwards, to see those we haven't seen before, to open ourselves in new ways.

As we consider our future at our Annual General Meeting, this month, can we also open ourselves prayerfully to see where we might go to meet the new person, to make new connections, to open ourselves in ways we've not done before?

I love the words of the hymnist – acknowledging pain and brokenness in life, but also an openness to be reshaped. That we might move through times of difficulty and hardship in life, but also be shaped and moved to new places of compassion, empathy, and renewed life in those moments. In Lent, we are invited to ponder how we use the life-times with which we are gifted. In the journey towards the tomb, we are invited into new life and new places, always; this is also the hope and good news we have in resurrection. Peace be with you!

*-Pastor Tyler*

*Join in...*

- Children's Sunday School** – during worship on Sundays
- Confirmation class** – contact Pastor for schedule
- Preparing meals for The Urban** - 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of the month
- Ladies' Luncheon** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month
- Quilting group** - Tuesday afternoons
- Zoom coffee hour** (with Adult Christian Ed) – Wed morn



Plan to attend our  
**Annual General Meeting**  
Sunday, March 5, 2023, 12:30 P.M.

*Light lunch served after worship.*

The Annual Report is on our website,  
printed copies available on request.

Home baking is appreciated for dessert with the light lunch.



**Will you help to host Sunday coffee at church?**  
See the sign-up sheet in our narthex!

*I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory.  
All I did was take a day off. ☺*



[www.rccowinnipeg.ca](http://www.rccowinnipeg.ca)

**Mid-week Lenten services**  
*will be with the*

Royal Canadian College of Organists  
at 12:15 on Wednesdays in Gloria Dei's sanctuary,  
featuring guests on our Casavant pipe organ!

- March 1** – Joseph Thompson, Assistant organist, Young United Church
- March 8** – Anne Kelm, Student, Canadian Mennonite University
- March 15** – Melissa Gingrich, Minister of Music, St Mark's Lutheran Church
- March 22** – Charmaine Bacon, Organist, McClure United Church
- March 29** – Haewook Kim, Organist, Holy Trinity Anglican Church



**International  
Women's Day**

Gender equality is not only a basic human right, but its achievement has enormous socio-economic ramifications. Empowering women fuels thriving economies, spurring productivity and growth. Yet gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched in every society. Women lack access to decent work and face occupational segregation and gender wage gaps. They are too often denied access to basic education and health care. Women in all parts of the world suffer violence and discrimination. They are under-represented in political and economic decision-making processes. (<https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/about-un-women>)

The theme for International Women's Day, 8 March 2023 (IWD 2023) is, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality". This theme is aligned with the priority theme for the upcoming 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW-67), "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls". -UN



The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with the celebration of Easter Sunday. It is a season that is generally marked with a more reflective and penitential tone. We often think of it as a time of preparation, growing spiritually as we get closer to the mystery of Jesus' death on a cross, his resurrection on Easter Sunday, and the life that we have because of that.

In the early Church, Lent was often a time of more intense and dedicated learning and devotional practice as people prepared for baptism and entrance into the Christian community. We still very much tie our understanding of baptism into the Lenten and Easter seasons.

The season of Lent is 40 days long (we don't count the Sundays during Lent), which is representative of Jesus' 40 days fasting in the wilderness before beginning his public ministry.

Historically, Lent is a time of self-reflection and repentance, prayer and fasting, and sacrificial giving. You may have heard the phrase "giving up something for Lent." Often, people observing Lent will fast from something – give something up – as a spiritual discipline.

It could be a certain type of food (like meat), or a behaviour that someone might consider a vice (like smoking or caffeine). Others will add something, like reading daily devotions or spiritual reflections or praying more regularly. (<http://sherpark.ca/season-of-lent/>)

*Consider "a weekly action" in Lent – see the article in this newsletter!*



*Most people are shocked when they find out how bad I am as an electrician. ☺*

## LENTEN WEEKLY ACTION: FOR THE SAKE OF CREATION

### First Week of Lent (Feb 26)

Green justice:

You are invited to consider some options of greening our spaces:

Consider giving up plastics, especially the non-recyclable, disposable ones!



### Second Week of Lent (March 5)

Social justice:

Learn about a culture, or gender identity, you know nothing about or would like to know more about. (March 21 is Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination!)

### Third Week of Lent (March 12)

Green justice:

Try finding, and supporting, a charitable organization that helps out green spaces!

### Fourth Week of Lent (March 19)

Social justice:

Learn about access to clean, safe drinking water. (March 22 is World Water Day!)

### Fifth Week of Lent (March 26)

Green justice:

We have all heard of energy saving: yes we have heard of changing all our bulbs to LEDs but do we remember to turn off lights when we leave the room? Or how about outdoor lights (no one is out there so why keep them on).

More information will be shared in church on Sundays in March –  
*listen, learn, and live in new ways!*

Thank you to Jennifer and our Social Justice Committee for this initiative!