Participants in Sunday leadership for May, 2023

Date	Reader	Liturgist	Greeter	Acolyte
May 7	Pam	Monica	Larry	Adelina
May 14	Cathy D	Jennifer	Rocky	Ellie
May 21	Jennifer	Monica	Jerry B	Adelina
May 28	Cathy D	Monica	Ralph	Anna

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.

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Making their way down through the ages, sinners and saints have heard God's call: wealthy and poor, powerful, lowly, Jesus' disciples, one and all. Gathered for worship, offering thanks, the greatest with the least have come to share the feast. ACS #979

In May, we continue in the weeks of Easter, and those culminates on Pentecost Sunday, fifty days after Resurrection of Our Lord Sunday (Pentecost is May 28, this year). The story of Pentecost is one of God's Spirit moving among the people, animating the church as a unified body, working through all – no matter who they are, or their backgrounds. We are called, in our day, to work together!

On Wednesdays, we have great conversation over Zoom. If you haven't joined in before, or it's been a while, I encourage you to try it out! We'll be engaging a Christian education program where we'll look at what the Bible says about welcome and inclusion, on Wednesdays in May.

On May 7, our Confirmands affirm their baptism. How do we listen to the voices of our young people and welcome their dreams for our community of faith? Join in conversation about our church's future!

And in June, we'll start the month by celebrating our *Reconciling In Christ* rostered status, with guests joining us; and then joining in the Winnipeg Pride parade on the Sunday morning as our community gathering! What might it feel like to worship on a Saturday afternoon, and to engage in community social justice awareness on a Sunday morning?

Blessings to you as new life springs among us!

-Pastor Tyler

FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR...

As I move into my new role of chair, I invite anyone who would like to chat to feel free and comfortable to call/text/email or share a conversation with me anytime. I'm honoured to be representing our Gloria Dei family and can't wait for what is to come this year. A few reminders: we are embarking on a visioning process with Deacon Michelle Collins to dream big dreams for Gloria Dei in the fall for our whole Gloria Dei family. We have begun to clean up our space (inside and outside) we would love your input into what you would like to see where, there are a lot of brilliant minds amongst us! Finally, we have some interest from an elementary school to perhaps work alongside of us for some of our programs and I am looking forward to seeing how this relationship develops. Remember we were all born with purposeful gifts to share, and I have big ears that are listening, and a heart willing to help see your ideas through.

I have had the privilege of working alongside some of our members with a group called *West Winnipeg Viability Committee* which is a group of lay led parishes representing 7 congregations looking at ecumenical works and missions. We have recently been in touch with Good Samaritan Society to discuss a possible joint venture for senior's care, this is still in its infancy and I'm hopeful that we will be involved in some fashion.

As a part of our Social Justice Committee, I would like to congratulate our congregation on all the steps we have made as we join the RIC roster, and are becoming more welcoming and inclusive! What an amazing family we have, and I can't wait to grow that family. We are officially moving to fair trade coffee for our coffee hours after service. I encourage anyone with ideas on social justice to join us for a conversation and share how we can be leaders for justice. A celebration is planned for June 3 to celebrate this work.

Jennifer Rzeszutek

On the lighter side:



Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers.

The first boy says, "My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper. He calls it a poem. They give him \$50."

The second boy says, "That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper. He calls it a song. They give him \$100."

The third boy says, "I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper. He calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!"

THE URBAN MEAL PREP TEAM

Gloria Dei has supported the Urban with a monthly meal since 2009.

In 2015 we began providing a second meal each month. Eventually we had fewer volunteers to prepare both meals, so we reverted to one monthly meal. At that time

Council began sponsoring a meal of pizza later each month.

During Covid in 2020 we began preparing bagged lunches, which we have continued to provide to this day.

The lunches are prepared by a group of faithful volunteers and delivered most times by Jett and Barb. Currently 76 lunches are distributed at the Urban each month.

Visioning for the future:

Jennifer has suggested we invite local young people (students) to assist with the meal preparation. This would require our meeting on Tuesdays after school hours or early evening to prepare the lunches which would be delivered on Wednesday.

We would need to survey our congregation for volunteers willing to work alongside the young people.

The Urban Meal is a vital initiative which would be enriched with the help of more volunteers. One of the regular art group individuals has taken an interest in assisting with the meal by donating muffins. This is much appreciated.

Rhonda has shared grants of cheese and meat as well as larger lunch bags on several occasions. This has greatly helped financially. Marlene has negotiated a deal with Harvest Bakery to provide bread at a discount each month, another bonus. -Marlene Buffie

Sunglasses for Migrant Workers

Pterygium is a disease of the eye caused by long exposure to wind and bright sunshine. Migrant farm workers are at high risk to develop this disorder. Kairos and Migrant Workers Solidarity Network are collecting anti-UV or polarized sunglasses for the workers. If you have a pair of sunglasses to donate, please drop them into the marked box in the entryway of the church. For more info, contact Katharine Bergbusch.

The Mariachi Ghost Band is giving the proceeds from their concert on May 5 at the Good Will Social Club to benefit the migrant farm workers.



UPDATE FROM OUR PIANIST...

April was a great month for music, commencing with Palm Sunday, with joyful music filling our sanctuary. Then came the reflective and deeply moving Good Friday service. And then the joyous strains of Christ's resurrection on that Glorious Easter Sunday. Cathy Johnson formed a choir and they performed a special hymn to glorify our risen Lord.

Our Youth-led service on April 23rd was again, a spectacular chorus of musical joy, with the percussion (Pastor Tyler), guitar (Travis Wog), and our Lexy Dorn on vocals for a few of our hymns. How wonderful and such an honour for me to work with such talented people, I thank God every day for my many blessings!

May begins with Confirmation Sunday, with specially selected music to honor our confirmands. Following that, we have our service on Mother's Day, which will bring more special music in honour of our mothers.

We have been treated with the talents of "Sonny and the Pastor" (Clarence Lefort and Pastor Tyler) on piano and guitar in the past, with overwhelming joy and applause, and hope that our special duo will continue to surprise us with their many talents.

In short, it is truly a blessing for me to be part of the music offering to Gloria Dei. I strive to do my best each Sunday for the glory of God, and to honour my congregation.

Thanks be to God!

Karen Isleifson Buechler

Holy Humour (submitted by Pastor Katharine Bergbusch)

Twin boys, Tyler and Nathan, were in my sister's preschool Sunday School class. One Sunday at coffee hour, the two cute blond brothers stood solemnly in front of my sister. One asked, "Do you have any little



boys?" "No, I don't," she replied. One twin retorted, "You should have one!" And the other immediately said, "You should have two!"

Join in...

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

Committees:

Worship – meets every 2-3 months **Social Justice** - meets every 6-8 weeks

Ladies Lunch



The ladies of GD, some friends, and sometimes a few men get together for lunch the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Taverna Rodos, at the corner of Harstone Rd. and Roblin Blvd. at 12 noon. You are invited to

join us. The next lunch will be May 10, 12noon at the above restaurant. Anyone wishing to attend **needs to RSVP** to Marlene Herman at 204 895-1628 or e-mail her at alvinmar@shaw.ca **by Monday, May 8.**



Will you help to host Sunday coffee at church?

See the sign-up sheet in our narthex!



On Sunday, May 7, 2023 🗷

Ellie and Aly will affirm their baptisms, having completed two years of Confirmation class studies. Come and celebrate with them, and support them as part of their family of faith!

CHURCH YARD CLEAN-UP: Saturday, May 13 – 9am-Noon!