

Participants in Video Devotions for July & August, 2021

Date	Worship Assistant (Psalm)	Reader (reading)	Prayer leader
July 4	St Mark's/Epiphany	Kim D	Faith
July 11	St Mark's/Epiphany	Tim L	Faith
July 18	Faith/St Mark's	Jett I	Epiphany
July 25	Faith/St Mark's	Monica P	Epiphany
August 1	Faith/Epiphany	Kara R	St Mark's
August 8	Faith/Epiphany	Tom R	St Mark's
August 15	Faith/St Mark's/Epiphany		Marilyn C
August 22	Faith/St Mark's/Epiphany		Eric N
August 29	Tom R	Katharine B	Kara R

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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*We come with self-inflicted pains of broken trust and chosen wrong,
 half-free, half-bound by inner chains, by social forces swept along,
 by pow'rs and systems close confined,
 yet seeking hope for humankind*

EvLW #358

As the month of June comes to a close, and as we would prepare to celebrate our nation, we are faced with more bodies of children being discovered at former Indian Residential School sites. This is likely going to go on, with more horrific and heartbreaking discoveries in the coming while.

Our Canadian society is being called to atone. Our Christian church is being pointed at for accountability. What are we to do?

Our response could be one of indifference: "it's not my fault; it was those cruel priests and politicians."

Our response could be one of compassion: "we acknowledge that we have created a society where some have been treated inhumanely; we grieve this terrible reality, and the harm inflicted over generations; we strive to do better and commit to building positive relationships."

As we move through the story of King David in Hebrew Scriptures, this Summer, listen for the brokenness in this ancestor of our faith – whether it's the relationship he had with Saul, who tried to kill him, or whether it's his relationship with Uriah, who he had killed and took his wife, Bathsheba, or otherwise.

It is not unusual in our human interactions and history to break relationship and hurt those around us. But that doesn't excuse it, and that doesn't mean we don't seek to repair and reconcile with those who have experienced hurt and loss. May we engage in the work that leads to hope.

-Pastor Tyler

Wednesdays – 9:30am Virtual Coffee Hour
Sundays – 9:30am Bible Study,
10am time of prayer:



-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!

As Gloria Dei celebrates its
60th Anniversary in 2021...



What memories do you have of the past?
What dreams do you have for the future?
Let's share our stories, and hopes!

SOCIAL MEDIA AT GLORIA DEI – “by the numbers”

YouTube – since July, 2020 – 67 subscribers

Facebook – since Nov, 2019 – 222 page likes, 244 followers

Instagram – since March, 2020 - 116 followers

Twitter – since March, 2020 – 2 followers (!)

What do these numbers mean...? These are the number of individuals who get regular updates (as we post them) of our news and online presence on those platforms. Many of these numbers would be our membership, but some would be others from anywhere around the world! We have had traffic to our website from across Canada, as well as a few places in the US!

This gives some idea of the broader reach Gloria Dei has, and opportunities for new mission and relationships!

SHARED SUMMER SERVICES 2021

Faith Lutheran Church – July 4 & 11
Epiphany Lutheran Church – July 18 & 25
St Mark's Lutheran Church – August 1 & 8
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church – August 15 & 22

By sharing Summer services online, it gives our worship leaders and tech-people a break, and all of us a chance to “visit” other congregations in these Summer weeks!

ENGAGING THE WORK OF RECONCILIATION

As Bishop, Rev. Elaine Sauer reflected on reconciliation on a trip to Tataskweyak First Nation in northern Manitoba in 2016: “what does reconciliation mean? It means developing friendships – to be friends with one another.”

How might we “be friends?”

We can listen! Let's engage the stories we've heard, even as they may be uncomfortable to hear, sometimes

We can learn! As we listen to stories, let's reflect on them, and let's delve into the wisdom in them.

Perhaps most of all: we need to create opportunity to connect. We might go somewhere – we could visit a community that will be open to our encounter. Or we can invite someone, or a number of people, for a time of fellowship and relationship-building.

We live on Treaty 1 territory; we are treaty people. We live in the city where the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation is housed. We have opportunities to connect in meaningful ways!

You are encouraged to read the 94 Calls to Action that came from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission – there are specific ones for communities of faith to engage.

Can we find ways, in the coming while, to “bridge the gap” that has existed with our Indigenous neighbours?



TECHNOLOGY!

You may know that Gloria Dei was the recipient of an *Acts of the MNO* grant at the start of 2021.

With the funds, some technology was purchased to build on our online presence and to reach into the community in new ways.

Have you wondered about the process of creating the videos we use for online worship? Would you like to learn about creating videos?

As we're able to gather, and perhaps as we're able to connect over Zoom, we can create opportunities to learn about video editing and livestreaming. (Note: Gloria Dei is not currently set up to livestream.)

One example of how the technology has already been put to use in the community is when Pastor Tyler recently edited some "Grade Four Farewell" videos for the local Dieppe School. Because of our socially-distanced times, children and their parents submitted short video clips, and Pastor Tyler worked with another parent to assemble videos of the students sharing memories of their time at Dieppe!

If you have skills you're willing to share, it would be great to hear from you!

RECONCILING IN CHRIST

ReconcilingWorks believes **representation matters**. So we are excited to have a **NEW Reconciling in Christ (RIC) logo**! Inspired by the Progressive Pride Flag design, these updates to the RIC logo include the colors blue, pink, and white to represent our transgender siblings, as well as a black and brown stripe, to represent the fullness of our Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Community brings to the queer community.

Since 1983, the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program has been a public way for faith communities to see, name, celebrate, and advocate for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions in the Lutheran church. The RIC Program is made up of congregations, synods, colleges, seminaries, outdoor ministries, and other Lutheran organizations.

Every ministry setting begins this journey from their own unique context and *ReconcilingWorks* is here to help you create an authentic welcome journey that is customized to your community.

The purpose of the RIC Program is to ensure the welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions; work for racial equity and commit to anti-racist work and support the national program.

<https://www.reconcilingworks.org/ric/aboutric/>



Gloria Dei is not, currently, a Reconciling In Christ congregation. Can we have this conversation of welcome and inclusion, and work towards this designation? Will you step forward to engage this work?