Participants in Sunday leadership for September, 2023

Date	Reader	Liturgist (Prayers)	Greeter
Sept 3	Trudy	Cathy J	Jerry B
Sept 10	Cathy J	Jennifer	Ralph
Sept 17	Cathy D	Jennifer	Rocky
Sept 24	Pam	Monica	Larry
Oct 1	Cathy D	Cathy J	Ralph

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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God the sculptor of the mountains, God the miller of the sand, God the jeweler of the heavens, God the potter of the land: you are womb of all creation, we are formless; shape us now.

ELW #736

The hymnist writes that we are formless, and we ask that God shape us. Is that really the case? In our society, aren't we encouraged to build our own lives? Aren't we encouraged to create our own destinies and pursue what our personal desires and dreams may be? What is this notion of a Creator-God as potter, and us as clay, where we simply *allow Life* to happen *to* us?

But... that's the story of faith, isn't it? Doesn't it challenge our ideas of how things should be? It also challenges our ideas of how we measure success.

I like that the programming year begins with this month where we observe a Season of Creation. Looking at the opening verses of Genesis – the creation account in scripture – we read "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void... then God said... and there was..." God spoke, and it came into beina!

What is God speaking, today?

This Fall, we'll be trying new things, embarking on new ventures with new people, and visioning for the future. In this Spirit of newness – which is also an acknowledgement that we are unfinished, not fully-shaped, moldable, with *Life in us* – how might we respond? You are invited to join in the shaping of our community, this Fall, and through this coming year! It doesn't always need to be in a major output of energy, but by showing up and being present! Let's give thanks that we are created for community, and that God continues to create and breath new life in us!



Blessing of the Backpacks

On September 10, we will be doing a blessing of the backpacks to kick off the start of the school year for our students.

We will also be collecting school supplies for The Urban and will donate the items in October.

The Urban is currently looking for the following supplies: Scribblers, erasers, crayons, pencil crayons, rulers, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, and pencil cases.

Any and all donations are welcome.



"Sundae Sunday" after church on September 10th

As we kick off the programming year, let's have ice cream together!



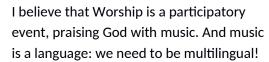
"See... 3P ...Ohhhh!"

We're trying something new, this Fall. The abbreviation is "3P," and it stands for Play/Pizza/Pray. Are you curious?
Come at 4pm on Sunday, September 24, and we'll have a time of fun and conversation, we'll eat together, and then we'll have informal worship together!

Everyone welcome!

Introducing Dale Rogalsky, Music Director

I am looking forward to starting my position as Music Director at Gloria Dei! You'll also hear me leading music on Gloria Dei's beautiful pipe organ and grand piano, beginning September 10th.





The largest choir in the church is the congregation. Leading the congregation in exciting hymns and liturgy is essential for worship! I support the community's use of many styles of music.

There will be many opportunities at Gloria Dei for musical participation! Whether as soloists or ensembles, voices or instruments, rhythm and melody – I look forward to working with the gifts of this community! Feel free to speak to myself after church, or send me an email at dalerogalsky@hotmail.com, or I can be phoned/texted at 204-998-0102!

The Quilting Corner

Our quilting group is starting up again on Tuesday, September 12, and will meet each week from 1:00-3:30 to create quilts for *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*. If anyone has spare fabric (preferably cotton, medium weight & washable) they wish to donate, please leave it in the basement sewing room or contact Barb Magnusson.

This year, the group is determined to match and surpass last year's donation of 16 quilts. If you are interested in joining our quilters, simply stop by. All are welcome.



FIRST CONTACT Six Canadians Take an Extraordinary Journey Through Indigenous Canada

Upcoming Educational Series

Canadians' opinions about the Indigenous people of this country

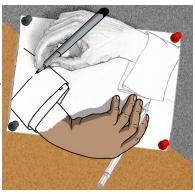
are formed without any knowledge of the culture's true history or firsthand experience of the present-day communities. This may explain the prevalence of racist, unsympathetic and generally prejudicial attitudes that are often directed towards Indigenous peoples.

First Contact takes six Canadians on a 28- day journey intended to challenge these attitudes and shed a light on the true Indigenous experience. The travelers, all with ignorant views about Indigenous People, have been invited to leave their everyday lives behind and embark on a unique journey, travelling deep into the Indigenous communities throughout Canada including the nation's capital, Algonquin Anishanabek Territory, Labrador, Saskatchewan and the Yukon. It is a journey that will challenge their perceptions and confront their prejudices about a world they never imagined they would see. This exploration of the true Indigenous experience in Canada will change the participants' lives forever. (https://www.aptntv.ca/firstcontact/)

See our calendar & e-news for when we'll be starting this series!

The Harte Trail Studio Tour (in our Charleswood neighbourhood, featuring artists who have been part of art groups that meet at Gloria Dei!) is a self-guided tour of diverse art studios and workshops. Set off on your personal adventure to discover what the Harte Trail Studio Tour has to offer you this September 16 and 17, 10am-4pm.

For more information: www.hartetrailstudiotour.net



PINS AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH!





NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION IS SEPTEMBER 30th!



We observe the Season of Creation in the month of September!

Prophet Amos cries out: "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity.

As the people of God, we must work together on behalf of all Creation, as part of that mighty river of peace and justice. (www.SeasonOfCreation.org)



MNO city and nearby congregations - and friends of the Urban

Lutheran Urban Ministry 2023 Walk/Ride Fundraiser

Date: September 16 (Rain date: September 30)

Kick-off location: Abundant Life Lutheran Church, East St Paul

Registration time: 9:00am

Amos 5: 24

To form or join a team, contact Rhonda: rhonda@theurban.ca