

## Participants in Sunday leadership for May, 2024

Date	Reader	Liturgist (Prayers)	Greeter	Coffee Host
May 5	Katharine	Jennifer	Ralph	Irene
May 12	Kim	Lexy	Merv	Holly & Audrey
May 19	Pam	Monica	Larry	Doreen
May 26	Cathy	Monica	Jerry	Lillian

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 strive to be an open and affirming congregation to all, welcoming 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](http://www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org)  
(204) 832-4564

# The Gloria Daily

May, 2024

[www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org](http://www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org)

Vol 5. No. 5

*Come and gather beneath the tree of life...  
root of wisdom, branch of peace, fruit of healing and release.  
Here beneath the branches of your mercy,  
we invoke your name, remember how your love has set us free.*

***Beneath the Tree of Life, gathering song***

We join in the ongoing creation of Creator-God!

Earth Day, observed in April, is conveniently put on the calendar around Springtime (in the northern hemisphere, anyway) – we are mindful of our planet, and our impact on the environment, as we begin to see signs of green and new life!

It's the month of *May*, however, when I think we (in Winnipeg) feel we can safely emerge in shorts and t-shirts!

I love the image of the Tree of Life – which we have been lifting up in our liturgy through weeks of Lent and Easter. It's an image of rootedness and strength, but also growth and new life! What creative work do we join in? We sing of *wisdom, peace, healing, mercy, love that sets free!*

When we sing about this Tree of Life, with these traits of our faith, we also sing about invitation, about welcome: *come and gather*. I wonder if we can build on those values lifted up, and also the welcome and invitation... not to maintain an institution we think needs to go on, but to be a place of warmth, of safety, of hope, of grace. The Tree of Life, after all, is a metaphor for the cross of Christ – where we are welcomed, forgiven, made new, and gathered with all of God's beloved children. We have that good news to share!

Let's share our stories, share in meals, and sing together, inviting others to build on these roots of wisdom and branches of peace!

*-Pastor Tyler*

## Springtime Yard Clean Up!



Join us on **Saturday, May 4** beginning at 9am for Gloria Dei's annual church yard clean up day!

*Bring a shovel, a rake, a wheelbarrow...!*  
Contact Ralph for more information.

On **Thursday, May 9 at 7:00pm**

Gloria Dei welcomes neighbouring church communities to join in an evening of music!



*Plan to come  
& help offer hospitality!*

# Arise

## Ascension Day Music Festival

Our *Reconciling In Christ* status is one of the ways we let the community know we are a safe space for all people, free of judgment and working to show God's grace and love in the world. We will lift up our RIC commitment in a special Saturday afternoon service on June 1<sup>st</sup>, and then join in the Pride Parade on Sunday morning, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, downtown Winnipeg!



**Make sure you're subscribed to our weekly e-news to stay up to date on everything Gloria Dei!**



Stories are told of a time when our Sunday School was bursting at the seams. We know the hymns and songs we like. We long for more young families, and energy from youth and young adults. However, what we may want in a church may not be the thing others are seeking in a faith community. Can we adjust some of our ideas and conceptions of what that may be? Can we imagine ourselves in the shoes of a visitor...?

### *Thinking Out Loud about Church... WHAT IF...*

- Kids from local schools come to church on Sunday and are noisy?
- We renovate the hall, and it gets used for stand-up comedy?
- Our inclusion flag is the reason diverse people show up?
- The Jets win the Stanley Cup and we throw a big party?
- Our church services turn into times of conversation and meditation?
- We watched documentary movies to learn about far away places?
- We had Communion with pizza and pop instead of bread and wine?
- We sang radio hit songs in a worship gathering? 🎵
- We listened to a sermon from another faith tradition? 📖
- We created a service specifically for atheist visitors? 🎯
- We spent a season of the church-year inviting "outsiders" in, and listening to their stories?
- The local grade schools planted vegetable gardens on our church property? **Or... what else...?**

**Maybe some of this, or maybe none of this! Are we open to this?  
Can "our place" be "their place?" Would you join in?**

EVERYONE  
WELCOME!  
YOU ARE IN  
THE 100%

## Easter – Ascension – Pentecost – Holy Trinity

### ***What's the connection...??***

The Ascension of the Lord is celebrated 40 days after Easter Sunday on the Thursday in the sixth week of Easter. Based on the Acts of the Apostles, the Church holds that Jesus ascended into heaven 40 days after His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

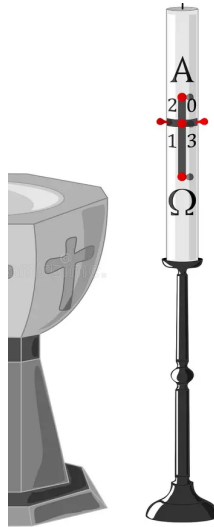
The Ascension and Pentecost are not the same, though they are connected. It was 10 days after Jesus' Ascension into Heaven that the Holy Spirit was able to descend upon His disciples.

Pentecost signals the end of the Easter season and is also the day we recognize as the birth of the Church.

(<https://hallow.com/blog/feast-of-the-ascension-of-the-lord/>)

### ***Did you know...?***

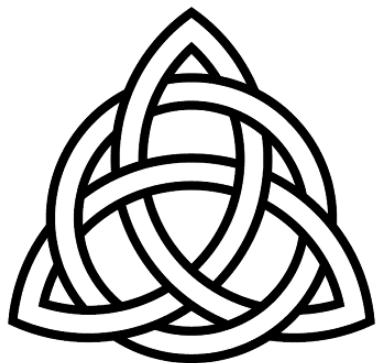
That big candle next to the font is called a "Paschal Candle" or "Christ Candle." It symbolizes the resurrected presence of Christ. Typically, we light it on three occasions in our church life together: for baptisms, at Easter (and through the Sundays of Easter), and for funerals.



### ***What about that Sunday after Pentecost...?***

Trinity Sunday (the Sunday after Pentecost Sunday) celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: Creator, Incarnate Word, and the Holy Spirit. Since it was after the first great Pentecost that the doctrine of the Trinity was proclaimed to the world, the feast becomingly follows that of Pentecost. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity\\_Sunday](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_Sunday)) We see importance, at Gloria Dei, to use expansive language for God, and to move away

from words that limit God – after all, we believe the Source of Life is beyond gender!



The Celtic *Triquetra* first appeared in insular art around the 7th century, famously in the Book of Kells, but also carved into Celtic Crosses and holy buildings and monuments. Also known as the *Celtic Trinity Knot*, the Triquetra has a strong connection to the Holy Trinity in Christianity.

(<https://www.theirishroadtrip.com/the-triquetra-celtic-trinity-knot/>)

## **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (May 17)**

Deeply-embedded homophobic and transphobic attitudes and social norms leave many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) people extremely vulnerable to discrimination. Far too often, LGBTQI+ people are singled out for hate-motivated violence, or even murdered. Many are mistreated and even disowned by their own families. This has led to LGBTQI+ people, of all ages and around the world, being among those left furthest behind as countries pursue the Global Goals.

There has been notable progress. From 1990 to 2023, the number of countries criminalizing private, consensual same-sex relationships decreased from 113 to 64. In many countries, social norms are also becoming more accepting. Nevertheless, there are chasms to cross. In those countries where discriminatory laws persist, individuals are exposed to the risk of arrest, prosecution and imprisonment. Regrettably, a small number of countries have even begun to consider extending existing criminalization, even to the point of considering bans on relevant work by human rights defenders and introducing the death penalty for so-called "aggravated homosexuality". There can never be a justification for such egregious violations of human rights.

*The International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT) is observed annually on 17 May to raise awareness about the discrimination and violence faced by LGBTQI+ communities worldwide.* (<https://www.undp.org/speeches/international-day-against-homophobia-biphobia-and-transphobia-idahobit>)



### ***Birthdays Coming Up in May***



Rebecca Kohler	Cathy Dorland	Henley Rundle
David Kohler	Karen Flaming	Cindy-Lou Bouchard
Ralph Oswald	Jacey Ring	Amanda Caron
Lori Drozd	Megan Todoruk	Brett Caron
Garth Jackman	Ted Wittenberg	Karen Hayden
Irmgard Doege	Daniella Ring	
Andrew Jackman	Linda Holden	
Ilona Oelkers	Doreen Oswald	
Lauren Rawlings	Barb Magnusson	
Don Zimmerman	Karsten Roche	

	May 2024					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Church Office Hours:</b> <b>Wednesdays &amp; Fridays</b> <b>9am-2pm</b>			<b>1</b> 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour/Book Study  Urban Meal Prep	<b>2</b>  8:00 – Men’s Breakfast  4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	<b>3</b> Weekly e-news	<b>4</b> Annual Yard Clean Up
<b>5</b> 10:30 – Worship (Easter 6)  1:30 - Confirmation	<b>6</b> Pastor’s Day Off	<b>7</b> Pastor’s Study Day  1:00 – GD Quilting	<b>8</b> 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour/Book Study  12:00 – Women’s Lunch	<b>9</b> 8:00 – Men’s Breakfast  4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B  7:00 – Ascension Day Music Festival	<b>10</b> Weekly e-news	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10:30 – Worship (Easter 7)  Mother’s Day	<b>12</b> Pastor’s Day Off	<b>14</b> 1:00 – GD Quilting  Church Council Meeting	<b>15</b> 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour/Book Study	<b>16</b> 8:00 – Men’s Breakfast  4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	<b>17</b> Weekly e-news  Day against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10:30 – Worship (Pentecost)	<b>20</b>   Victoria Day	<b>21</b> Worship Committee Meeting  1:00 – GD Quilting	<b>22</b> 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour/Book Study	<b>23</b> 8:00 – Men’s Breakfast  4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	<b>24</b> Weekly e-news  MNO Synod Convention	<b>25</b> Camino Manitoba Walk  MNO Synod Convention
<b>26</b> 10:30 – Worship (Holy Trinity)  1:30 – Confirmation  MNO Synod Convention	<b>27</b> Pastor’s Day Off	<b>28</b> 1:00 – GD Quilting	<b>29</b> 9:30 – Zoom Coffee Hour/Book Study	<b>30</b> 8:00 – Men’s Breakfast  4:30 – Community Taiji w/ Katharine B	<b>31</b> Weekly e-news	 <b>Gloria Dei</b> LUTHERAN CHURCH