

Participants in Sunday leadership for January, 2024

Date	Reader	Liturgist (Prayers)	Greeter
Jan 7	Kim	Lexy	Ralph
Jan 14	Pam	Monica	Larry
Jan 21	Cathy	Jennifer	Jerry
Jan 28	Katharine	Monica	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.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
637 Buckingham Rd
Winnipeg, MB,
R3R 1B9

www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org
(204) 832-4564

The Gloria Daily

January, 2024

www.GloriaDeiWinnipeg.org

Vol 5. No. 1

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.

All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.

Spirit, open my heart.

ACS #1043

As I write this, I'm aware of the work we've been doing to be open in new ways. A number of us have journeyed through a series on Indigenous relationships; even more of us took part in an afternoon presentation from an Indigenous elder who visited us in December. We put a flag up to let our community know we're an inclusive and welcoming place, and a few days later it was stolen in an act of vandalism, requiring us to replace it. None of this is easy work. We probably don't gravitate to these kinds of efforts. In some cases (or all?), maybe we'd rather be doing something else.

For some of us, we may find ourselves resisting the work of opening ourselves. What values, or opinions, or views do we cling to, and why? Can we shift our mindset?

The point is: life can be *hard*. Even more: life may be *even harder* for others in our community and our world. That's where faith comes in.

You see, when life is hard – with things like poverty, discrimination, oppression, mental health struggles, addictions, isolation – our faith urges us to lift up those who are experiencing hardship in prayer and in action. "Love God. Love your neighbour."

And as we come together to invite, welcome, lift up one another, we lighten the load. When we see Christ in the other, and lift up the humanity of our neighbour, our hearts are opened, and our lives are enriched. May we work towards the good of all in 2024!

-Pastor Tyler

Annual Baby Shower for Mary & Jesus

There is still time to contribute to the Baby Shower for Mary & Jesus! Donations will be going to young parents and families within our city.

We will have a giving service on **January 7th** (Baptism of Our Lord Sunday).

Please see the e-news for a list of needed items.



Plan to come! The abbreviation is "3P," and it stands for **Play/Pizza/Pray**. Come at **4pm on Sunday, January 21**, and we'll have a time of fun and conversation, eat together, and then have informal worship together!
Everyone welcome!

Restocking the Pantry

Everyone thinks to give during the holiday season, but what happens in the New Year when supplies run out, or are not at minimal levels? This year, Gloria Dei is striving to collect non-perishable food and clothing items through January to donate to The Urban in the midst of our coldest season.

Remember, those who are in need now may also be in need later.

Donations go to The Urban on the first Wednesday of the month!

Mark Your Calendars!

- Human Rights Week, January 21-27
- National Pie Day (the one you eat!), January 23
- Shrove Tuesday, February 13
- Ash Wednesday, February 14
- First Sunday of Lent, February 18



SAVE THE DATE:

Gloria Dei's Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday, March 3, 2024

Martin Luther King - "I Have A Dream" (excerpt)

August 28, 1963

It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked insufficient funds.

But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt.

We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. And so we've come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.

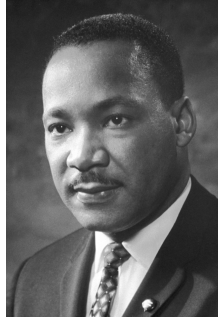
We have also come to his hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism.

Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children. [...]

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. [...]

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, Black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: Free at last. Free at last. Thank God almighty, we are free at last.

(<https://www.npr.org/2010/01/18/122701268/i-have-a-dream-speech-in-its-entirety>)



Wear a pin that states that you are a Lutheran against discrimination!

All children and youth have the right to be free from discrimination because of sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. This right is founded in Article 2 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as in the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the *Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms*, and provincial and territorial human rights legislation. Legislative protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation has been in place for some time. As of 2017, gender identity or gender expression has been explicitly codified in all human rights legislation at the provincial, territorial, and federal level.

The rights of children and youth with respect to sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression (SOGIE) apply to Canadian children and youth in a wide range of areas including (but not limited to) privacy, health care, sexual health education, identification documents, use of facilities, access to services, education (including gay-straight alliances, choice of companions at school events, and SOGIE inclusive curricula), employment, child protection, age of consent laws, youth justice and detention, and parental recognition. While relatively nascent, the application of SOGIE rights to children and youth is evolving rapidly and supplements other human rights protections to which they are entitled.

SOGIE rights are not currently well understood. The historical pathologizing of homosexuality and gender non-conformity, and widespread use of surgical interventions to “standardize” the genitalia without medical necessity and to erase the existence of intersex infants and children, continues to influence attitudes about expression by children and youth as anything other-than heterosexual and cisgender. Lack of strong parental support for a child’s sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression has been associated with extremely negative outcomes, including shocking levels of homelessness or underhousing, physical and mental health problems, fewer indicators of hopefulness for the future, and suicidal ideation and attempts.

(<https://www.cba.org/Publications-Resources/Practice-Tools/Child-Rights-Toolkit/theChild/Sexual-Orientation-Gender-Identity-and-Gender-Expr>)

For a list of terms:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/operational-bulletins-manuals/refugee-protection/resettlement/priority-special/sexual-orientation-gender-identity/definitions.html>



MOOSE HIDE
CAMPAIGN
CAMPAGNE
MOOSE HIDE

The Moose hide Campaign and Thursdays in Black pins (available at the entry to our church) are ways to show support and solidarity, and be clear in your desire and commitment to work towards a world without rape and gender-based violence.

See their websites for more information:
<https://wicc.org/resources/thursday-in-black-action-sheet/>
<https://moosehidecampaign.ca/>



Camino Manitoba Film Festival

2-9pm on Saturday, January 13

Cost for supper: \$30

To register: contact

caminomanitoba@gmail.com

www.CaminoManitoba.ca

QUOTES for inspiration as 2024 begins

“No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.”

– Nelson Mandela

“Some people mistakenly believe that trusting in God requires them to distrust science, history, art, philosophy, and other forms of education, information, and truth. But intelligence is a friend of faith, and ignorance its enemy. God loves knowledge and truth, and any faith that objects to either is terribly misguided.”

– Stephen Mattson