



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING.

Dana Point, California

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ThanksLiving



Grace, Gratitude, & Grit

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

September 24, 2023

8:30am, 10:00am, 5:00pm

WELCOME to worship! Today is our yearly focus on our response to God's mercy in terms of time, talent, and treasure - ThanksLIVING. One Sunday each year, we prayerfully consider what God is calling each of us to do in terms of being good stewards of the many blessings of life. May this time of worship inspire our giving, not only to the ministry of the church, but in every area of life.

PRELUDE: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Fred Johnson, Pianist/Organist (8:30am/10am)

Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

GATHERING HYMN: Earth and All Stars!

#731 vv. 1, 4, 5

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain: **God has done mar-vel-ous things.**

I too sing praises with a new song!

Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!

Sing to the Lord a new song! (Refrain.)

Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Daughter and son! Loud praying members!

Sing to the Lord a new song! (Refrain.)

INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

Risen Christ,

the world despised and rejected you - You responded with grace, humility, and welcome.

The proud questioned your power, devised your death - You responded with peace, forgiveness, and new life. Forgive us, merciful One, our arrogance, selfishness, and violence. Forgive us, merciful One and make us more like You. Amen.

(Time of silent confession)

Risen Christ, we proclaim your grace, mercy, and forgiveness. Dying, you destroyed the power of death and rising, you restore us to new and forgiven life. With our words and actions, we give You thanks and praise for this new beginning, now and forever.

Amen.

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING AND CANTICLE OF PRAISE

#167

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:30am/10am) Youth Director Paige Gulck

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 12:1-3
Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” (Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints— and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Please stand.)

(The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 15th chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord!**)
THE GOSPEL: John 15:12-17
“**This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.**” (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

M³ - MISSION/MINISTRY MOMENT Christian Asis, Council Financial Secretary

ANTHEM (10am): *For Everyone Born* arr. Tom Trenney Annika Krafcik, cello
Music Director Kathy Person, Sanctuary Choir

HYMN OF THE DAY: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service #712 vv. 1-3
**Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy’s perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose ev-’ry gift which you impart.**

**Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision, till your love’s revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the deeds and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.**

MESSAGE: *Grace, Gratitude, & Grit* Pastor David R. Mattson

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Deeper* by Meredith Andrews Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am (sung 2x) #814

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION (All who believe Christ is present in this sacrament are welcome. Non-communing children and adults who choose not to receive, may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms as a signal you would prefer a blessing. Juice is located in the center of each tray, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION MUSIC: ***Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)*** page 191

Amazing Grace #779
**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart
**Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son** (Repeat)

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us"** (Repeat)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

THE SENDING HYMN: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* #807
**Come, thou Fount of ev-'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

SENDING WORDS: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: *Let Us Give Thanks and Praise* Fred Johnson, Pianist/Organist (8:30am/10am)
Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

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ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Melody & Ron Bacon in celebration of their 29th anniversary!

GLORIA DEI STAFF: Pastor David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org); Assistant Minister Dana Becker (danabecker@mygloriadei.org); Administrative Assistant Carol Weinhardt (gloriadei@mygloriadei.org); Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas (preschool@mygloriadei.org); Minister of Arts and Outreach Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org); Congregational Life Susie Boland (fellowship@mygloriadei.org); Youth Director Paige Gulck (youth@mygloriadei.org); Music Director Kathy Person (music@mygloriadei.org); Organist/Pianist Fred Johnson (organist@mygloriadei.org); 5pm Worship Leader Micaela Lum

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to our new members: Sandra Dosick, Marilyn Hemingway, Harold Limbong, Jeff, Jorie, Ansley & Will Ramsaur, Sean Salimian, Elizabeth Zeiger, Evelyn & Eliana Zeiger-Salimian, Bonnie Schultz, and David & Lisa Zylstra. Their photos are at the Welcome Table today.

THANKS to Annika Krafcik for playing her cello for us this morning and the Sanctuary Choir, and Music Director Kathy Person.

DEVOTIONALS - Pick up a Christ in Our Home devotional (October - December) at the Welcome Table.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER - Hard copy at the Welcome Table or online - mygloriadei.org/newsletter.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is held during both the 8:30am and 10am service. If you can help, assist, teach, or have a question, please contact Susie Boland at fellowship@mygloriadei.org.

NURSERY CARE is available at the 8:30am & 10am services (babies - pre-K). The attendants are vaccinated. The location is inside the preschool room closest to the church. Sign in and grab a pager.

SANCTUARY CHOIR (teens and adults) rehearses every Thursday, 7:30pm. If interested in joining, speak with Music Director Kathy Person - music@mygloriadei.org. All are welcome!

BIBLE YEAR STUDY Thursdays, 6:30pm, Pastor David will lead a study on the readings and answer questions. (10/8-14; Leviticus 8:1-10:20 - Numbers 5:1-7:89) Never too late to join. All are welcome!

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Every Wednesday, 10am. All women are invited to Knudson Hall for a Bible study led by a pastor. Join us when you can!

ART MINISTRY GATHERING - October 13, 6:30pm, Bankson Hall. Join the art ministry for the monthly gathering. All are welcome. Questions: michellelum@mygloriadei.org.

OKTOBERFEST - October 14, 5pm, sponsored by MGD (Men of Gloria Dei). Cost: \$10/person, children free. Join us for polka music, games, dancing, corn hole, great conversation and wonderful refreshments. You're welcome to wear traditional costumes (or not). Sign-up.

MEDICARE WORKSHOP - October 15, 2pm, Neta Wenrick will host a workshop on timing & options available. Meet in Bankson Hall.

SPECIAL MUSIC - Arvid, Miriam, and Josefine Pettersen sing at morning worship on October 22. Come enjoy their joyous music! Bring a friend. (No 5pm service)

MEMORIAL SERVICE celebrating Cliff Anderson's life, Saturday, October 21, 10am. (Luncheon follows)

RAISE THE ROOF - Thanks to all who have given to this effort! We have raised \$110,944.15 for Bankson and Knudson Hall roofs! Roofing is complete on Knudson and Bankson Hall.

SERRA'S PANTRY - Volunteers serve food to those in need. Gloria Dei serves at Serra's Pantry every *third Saturday of the month, 8:30am*. Oct. 21 is the next opportunity. Contact the office for details.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING (30,000 youth) New Orleans, July 16 - 20, 2024 - an amazing opportunity! Sign-up. Incoming 9th graders (those leaving 8th grade in 2024) through graduating seniors. Deposit: \$150 due by November 1, 2023. Reach out to Paige at youth@mygloriadei.org for details.

OFFERING - Please place check/money in boxes in the sanctuary or at the Welcome Table, or give ELECTRONICALLY - Venmo app - @GloriaDei-DanaPoint. Or you can give via credit card or debit card through our secure site: mygloriadei.org/donate. Thank you for supporting Gloria Dei Lutheran!

REFORMATION SUNDAY - Oct. 29 - Celebrate with special music, trumpets, and festive worship. You're invited to wear something red. Bibles presented to 3rd graders. Contact the office for that presentation.

TRICK OR TRUNK (Fall Festival): Sun., Oct. 29, 4pm - Decorate your trunk & pass out candy, costume contest, games, In & Out Truck & inflatable slide. Invite friends! Volunteers needed to help set up, direct parking, judge costumes/trunks, manage slide & clean up. Flyers & sign up at Welcome Table.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is November 5. If you would like a loved one remembered during the tolling of the bells in the morning, please fill out a form at the Welcome Table. There will also be a brief service of remembrance and thanksgiving at the Columbarium, 9:30am, for those interred there.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Israel Trip (October 24 - November 2); Surfside Quilters Guild Gift Bizarre (November 7, 9am - 1pm); American Red Cross Blood Drive (November 10); Progressive Dinner (November 11); Thanksgiving Eve Service (November 22, 7pm); Alzheimer Service & Luncheon (December 6, 10:30am); Christmas Caroling (December 10, 5pm); Women's Cookie Exchange (December 10, 3pm); Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (December 24, 10am, 4pm, 5:30pm & 10pm).

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Acolyte: Elliot Don; Coffee Prep: Dianne & Greg Blanda; Communion: Katy Desmond & Liane Schuller; Lector: Brenda Gaumer; Ushers: Phil & Sandy Furlong ; Welcome Table: Shelli Parajeckas & Karen Sanchez
10am: Acolyte: Jackson Brodrick; Coffee Clean-up: Melody & Ron Bacon; Communion: Donna & Jerry Combe; Lector: Jerry Combe; Usher: Susan Behnke & Willie Kottnerus; Welcome Table: Katherine Dickinson
5pm: Communion & Lector: Stephanie Anderson

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OCTOBER 8 - 14, 2023

Today: Worship (8:30am & 10am & 5pm); Nursery & Sunday School (8:30am & 10am); NA (6:30pm)
Monday: South Coast Lit. Council (10am); Al Anon (5:30pm); GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Group (6:30pm)
Tuesday: AA Men (7am); Al Anon (7pm)
Wednesday: AA Men (7am); Surfside Quilters (9am); Women's Bible Study (10am); Staff Meeting (12:30pm); Mission Hospital Alumni Group (6pm); 12 Step Couples Group (7:30pm); Yoga (7:30am)
Thursday: AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); South Coast Literacy Council Games & Conversation (1pm); Al Anon Coed (5:30pm); Bell Choir (6:30pm); Bible Year Study (6:30pm); AA Men (7pm); Sanctuary Choir (7:30pm)
Friday - Preschool Choir (11:40am); Art Ministry Gathering (6:30pm)
Saturday: AA Men's (7am); Men's Breakfast (8:30am); Women's Board Meeting (9am); Ukrainian School (1:30pm); Oktoberfest (5pm)

