



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING.

Dana Point, California

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25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023

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

WELCOME to worship! Glad you are here. We are continuing our year of reading through the Bible. Today, we look at the Book of Joshua and the story of crossing the Jordan. God provided a way through for the people then and is certainly able to so for the challenges which we face this day.

PRELUDE: *By The Grace Of God* by A. Giamanco Fred Johnson, Pianist/Organist (8:30am/10am)

Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

GATHERING HYMN: Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

#618

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'r-ful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and ever-more,
feed me now and ever-more.

Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv-'rer, strong deliv-'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises
I will raise forever-more,
I will raise forever-more.

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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (People sing refrain below.)

#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)

Linda Smith

THE LESSON: Joshua 3:14-4:7

When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan. When the entire nation had finished crossing over the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua: "Select twelve men from the people, one from each tribe, and command them, 'Take twelve stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood, carry them over with you, and lay them down in the place where you camp tonight.'" Then Joshua summoned the twelve men from the Israelites, whom he had appointed, one from each tribe. Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, one for each of the tribes of the Israelites, so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the Lord.

When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever." (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Please stand.)

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Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

(The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 24th chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord!**)

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-42

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming."

(The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANTHEM (8:30am): *Give Thanks* by Anne Krentz Organ

Music Director Kathy Person, Sanctuary Choir

HYMN OF THE DAY: Day by Day

**Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'n-ly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.**

**Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.**

**Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.**

THE MESSAGE: "*Stepping Stones*"

Pastor David R. Mattson

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *If With All Your Hearts* from *Elijah* by F. Mendelssohn

Andy Degan

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: The Doxology

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (After each prayer - 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.)

#790

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION MUSIC:

Lamb of God(Agnus Dei)

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Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart (sing 2x)

**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)

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

#335

**Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream flows from Cal-v'ry's mountain.**

Refrain: **In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.**

**Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.** (Refrain.)

**Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.** (Refrain.)

**Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river.** (Refrain.)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

THE BENEDICTION

THE SENDING HYMN: For the Fruit of All Creation

#679

**For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev-'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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

POSTLUDE: *Postlude on "Madrid"* by David Lasky Fred Johnson, Pianist/Organist (8:30am/10am)
Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

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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 Parajekas (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

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Dennis & Cheryl Johnson in celebration of their 50th anniversary! They are also given by Jon & Jane Zeiger in celebration of their 43rd anniversary!

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 location is inside the preschool room closest to the church. Sign in and grab a pager.

HANDBELL CHOIR - Thursdays 6:30pm-7:30pm. There is room for a few more ringers. Note reading skills are helpful for jumping into this ensemble. Contact Kathy Person: music@mygloriadei.org.

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. (11/19 - 11/25: 2 Samuel through 1 Kings 1:1 - 4:34). 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!

OFFERING - Please place check/money in boxes in the sanctuary or at the Welcome Table, or give ELECTRONICALLY - [Venmo](#) app - @GloriaDei-DanaPoint; ZELLE - gloriadei@mygloriadei.org. Or you can

give via [credit card or debit card](#) through our secure site: mygloriadei.org/donate. Thank you for supporting Gloria Dei!

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP: Wednesday, November 22, 7pm. Special music, uplifting message, and pie served. Offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response and World Hunger. Non-perishable food items collected for F.A.M. We pause to say thank You to the "giver of all good gifts." (James 1:17)

"FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PAUL" (Greece Trip) - As an alternative to the Holy Land, Pastor David will be leading a group to Greece (land/sea), April 9-20, 2024. Flier available at the Welcome Table.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday/month, 2pm*, Knudson Hall. Next meeting is November 20. Reading - *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purcell. If interested in the book club, contact the office.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at members' homes. *They will be meeting on November 28.* For information contact the church office.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY join the *first Saturday/month, 9am*, Knudson Hall. Next meeting - Dec. 2. If you know of someone in need of a shawl or for more information, call Peggy Johnson or the office.

ADVENT SEASON - The four week preparation for Christmas begins Sunday, December 3. Lighting of the Advent candles, singing carols, and more. Theme: "4 Prophets 4 Christmas."

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - Friday, December 8, 2pm meet in the Sanctuary to help decorate for the Christmas season! Everyone's invited! Mark your calendars and come join in the fun!

WOMEN'S COOKIE EXCHANGE - Sunday, Dec. 10, 3pm, Bankson Hall. Bring 3 doz. cookies (homemade or store). Containers given to take some home. Extra cookies delivered later that evening during caroling. You're also welcome to bring a Nativity set to share for the day. See the Welcome Table.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING - Sunday, December 10, 5pm - meet at the church & caravan to sing at shut-ins homes. Maps and song sheets provided that evening.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm*. The group meets in Knudson Hall. The next meeting is December 18 & they will bring books to exchange. If interested in the book club, contact Diane Kelly or contact the office at 949-493-3414.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP - Sunday, December 24, 8:30am, 4pm, 5:30pm & 10pm. Carols, candlelight, special music, & uplifting message. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8:30am and 10pm. Invite a friend to worship with you!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Alzheimer Service & Luncheon (Dec. 6, 10:30am); Adult Inquiry Class-Membership (Jan.20, 9am); New Member Sunday (Jan. 28); Annual Meeting & Aloha Luncheon (Feb.4); Stephanie Trick & Paolo Alderighi Piano Concert; Ash Wednesday Worship and soup suppers begin (Feb.14).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR NOVEMBER 19 - 25, 2023

Today: Worship (8:30am, 10am & 5pm); Nursery & Sunday School (8:30am & 10am); Confirmation (11:15am); NA Meeting (6:30pm)

Monday: South Coast Lit. Council (10am); RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) Book Club (2pm); Al Anon (5:30pm)

Tuesday: AA Men (7am); Al Anon (7pm)

Wednesday: AA Men (7am); Mission Hospital Alumni Group (6pm); Thanksgiving Eve Service (7pm); 12 Step Couples Group (7:30pm)

Thursday: HAPPY THANKSGIVING; AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); Al Anon Coed (5:30pm); AA Men (7pm)

Friday: Office Closed

Saturday: AA Men's (7am); Serra's Pantry (8:30am); ACA Meeting Meeting (10:30am); ACA Meeting (11:30am); Ukrainian School (1:30pm); NA Meeting (7pm)

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Acolyte: Evan Neiderhiser; Coffee Prep: Pam & Steve Weiss; Communion: Pam & Steve Weiss; Lector: Barbara Keim; Ushers: Christian Asis & Bob Gaumer; Welcome Table: Kathy Martino

10am: Acolyte: Reed Jensen; Coffee Clean-up: Ann & Jim St. Martin; Communion: Lisa Mers & Mary Jane Rylaarsdam-Pike; Lector: Jim St. Martin; Usher: Gini Sherwood & Dave Warneke; Welcome Table: Sharon Miller

5pm: Communion & Lector: Gary Bridge