WELCOME TO



Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

We welcome all who worship with us. If you are a guest, we are especially glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Our worship is always enhanced by new faces and voices. If you are already a part of our church family, welcome home.

www.gloriadeielca.com

Prelude:

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of + the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church;

waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN: ELW 366 "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done"

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW pg. 213 "Glory to God" (see insert)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *All respond:*

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: ACTS 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23



Psalm 23:1
Psalm refrain reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

- ¹The LORD [|] is my shepherd; I shall not [|] be in want.
- ²The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures and leads me be- | side still waters.
- ³ You restore my ^I soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways ^I for your name's sake.
- ⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me. R

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹ of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is I running over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days [|] of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the [|] LORD forever. R

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 174 "Celtic Alleluia"

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

The holy gospel according to John **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel concludes:
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 502 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin

Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Deuteronomy 16:17

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord, your God, which he has given you.

OFFERTORY: ELW 465 "As the Grains of Wheat"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads in prayer. Please stand at the invitation to pray:

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: ELW 525 "You Are Holy"

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister leads the Eucharistic Prayer At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, all say:

- ... with every breath. We praise you, O God.
- ... into the future. We bless you, O God.

... with us now. We thank you, O God.

... we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

... without end. Amen

*The Lord's Prayer (Spoken)

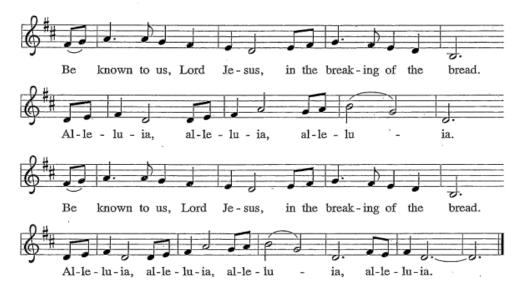
(Those who wish may hold hands as a sign of Christian unity).

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

LAMB OF GOD: "Be known to us, Lord Jesus"



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All Baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Those who do not wish to commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing (fold your arms over your chest).

The Body is available as bread or gluten-free Host.

The Blood is available as wine (large chalices) or non.alcoholic juice (small chalice). Communion will be via "intinction ONY" dipping the Host into the Chalice.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say: The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The appropriate response is:

Amen.

During the distribution, please pray silently or join in singing.

HYMN: ELW 843 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

Choir: My Soul Doth Bless The Lord

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand at the invitation to pray: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude:

The end of Worship – The beginning of Christian Ministry.

Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2024 Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license number #14240-ELW

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara

Music Director: Len Cremisio

Asst. Ministers: 9:30 a.m.

Reader: Quiana Menchaca

Crucifer:

Communion Assistant:

Assisting Minister: Vaike O'Grady

Ushers: 9:30 a.m. Crystal Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirkpatrick

Craig Carlson, John Kelly

Altar Care: Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick, Craig Carlson

Post Worship Sec.: 9:30 a.m Joy Yonko **Counters:** Arlene Kelly

Greeters: 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship:

Communion Wine: Given by Jeanne Talts, In loving memory of her husband

Andy Talts.

Altar Flowers: Given by Charles and Joy Yonko, In honor of their Mothers

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church www.gloriadeielca.com 130 South Lone Oak Drive Leesburg, Florida 34748

Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara pastorgdlcleesburg@gmail.com
Evelyn Rollins, Administrator c.352-787-3223
Leonard Cremisio, Music Director c.352-638-3695