# Weekly Word

Bringing Jesus Christ to people for the first time and for a lifetime!

## **The Story Concert**

Sunday, April 28 at 6 p.m.

Nichole Nordeman, a multiple GMA Dove Award winner, will help us celebrate our journey through "The Story." All are invited! See page 3 for more details.

#### **Mission Weekend**

In conjunction with next weekend's message on Paul's mission, we will have a mission fair in the center wing April 13-14.

There will be lots of displays, specialty coffee and treats. So stop by to see some of the avenues that demonstrate Jesus' love to our community and world. And then pray about getting involved with God's mission on earth.

#### Mid-week Meal

**April 10:** Bacon Lettuce and Tomato/Brisket

# Consignment Sale

Friday, April 19 at 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at 8-11 a.m.

(half-price sale) See page 2 for more details.

#### **Youth Dinner Theater**

Friday, April 19
at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 20
at 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 21
at 4 p.m.
See page 2 for more details.



They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. Acts 2:2

## **Our Story: New Beginnings**

We are witnesses to God's redemptive story that He has been working on all throughout history. In the Old Testament, we saw phase one, Israel. God entrusted the Hebrew people with a message of worldwide hope and equipped them with the tools of the Law and the temple. Using patriarchs and prophets, trials and teachers, God clearly demonstrated He wants all His children to come home.

Phase two is Jesus of Nazareth. He came announcing: "I am the way, the truth and the life and no man comes to the Father except by Me." Jesus was the ultimate plan because He ushered a way for the lost to be reunited with God.

Phase three is the church, which includes you and me. What God began with Israel, what He accomplished through Christ, He continues and proclaims through the church. So, in the next four weeks, let's search our hearts to see how we partner with Jesus to fulfill His mission on earth.

April 6-7: "New Beginnings" April 13-14: "Paul's Mission" April 20-21: "Paul's Final Days" April 27-28: "The End of Time"

"The Story" Plates: Throughout our journey, we have been enriched by Israel Lopez's depiction of "The Story." All 31 plates will be displayed for a silent auction in the Narthex starting April 13 and ending Sunday, April 21 at 12:30 p.m. Proceeds from the silent auction will go toward buying Spanish versions of "The Story" to be sent to Honduras and Dominican Republic.

## 30 Hour Famine

Help our youth meet their goal of \$10,000 by giving financially after each worship service in the Family Life Center or Narthex.



Every year, hundreds of thousands of students in the U.S. and around the world unite around the 30 Hour Famine. They learn about hunger, raise funds to help the hungry, and then go hungry themselves.

In the past nine years, our youth have collected over \$80,000—this year's goal is \$10,000. You can help by giving financial donations this weekend. The youth will be in the Narthex and the Family Life Center after each worship service to receive your donations and to talk about their incredible experience during the 30 Hour Famine.

## Gloria Dei's Web Site

We have been diligently working toward completely revamping our current Web site. It will be

like a new remodel where things are changed around, new shelving added, a completely new look but with the same information. We will be able to incorporate new technological advances that will enable us to integrate a variety of Social Media platforms, online calendar usage, and more advanced media capabilities.

Can you tell we are excited? This new Web site (same URL as our current site: www.gloriadeionline.com) will be up and running Monday, April 15, so visit the site, explore all its nooks and crannies, and let us know what you think.



## **Tiny Treasures' Consignment Sale**

Friday, April 19 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 20 from 8-11 a.m. (half-price sale)

Tiny Treasures' Spring Children's Consignment Sale is almost here! Items for sale will include children's, teens', and maternity clothing, toys, books, baby accessories, bedding, décor, DVDs, and children's furniture. There is still time to register to be a seller at the consignment sale. You can pick up a registration form in the preschool office or print one on-line.

## **Youth Dinner Theater**

Friday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 21 at 4 p.m.



Gloria Dei youth will present "All's Fair - Noah County Fair." Tickets (\$10 for adults and \$8 for children under 10 and adults over 55) can be purchased in the Narthex and in the Family Life Center this weekend and next.

Tickets can be purchased this weekend in the Narthex and the Family Life Center.

## **Discovery - New Member Class**

Thursdays, May 30, June 6, 13, 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m.

This five-week class is for those who desire to join Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, whether new to the Lutheran faith or transferring from another Lutheran church. We will revisit the basics of our beliefs and be encouraged to grow in our faith in God and service to others. Register for this class online at www. gloriadeionline.com or contact Pastor Robarge at probarge@gloriadeionline.com.

## **LWML**

**The 2013 Arts & Craft Show** is still six months away but it's time to think about mission projects to support with the proceeds of this annual event. Bring ideas to your circle meetings this month. Donna Maasen will gather the ideas together and prepare a ballot for voting at May meetings.

**Rebekah Circle** will meet on Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. at the home of Rosalie Petersen, 109 N. Jacob St., Grimes.

**Ruth Circle** will meet Monday, April 8 at 7 p.m. at the home of Mikki Kinning, 4532 49th Place, Des Moines.

**Naomi Circle** will meet Thursday, April 11 at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Agape will be sharing their story with us.

**Mary-Esther Circle** will meet Thursday, April 11 at 9 a.m. at the home of Hazel Schroedel, 5716 NW 93rd, Johnston.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 8301 Aurora Ave. Urbandale, Iowa 50322 515-276-1700

Church office hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Rev. Ronald Burcham Senior Pastor

rburcham@gloriadeionline.com
Rev. Timothy Phillips

Director of Congregational Care tphillips@gloriadeionline.com

Rev. Philip Robarge
Director of Adult Ministry
probarge@gloriadeionline.com

Governing Board
govboard@gloriadeionline.com

Visit us on:
twitter/gloriadeionline

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Need help? Stephen Ministries

We have trained individuals to help you in every season of life. Contact Pastor Phillips at tphillips@gloriadeionline.com.

## **Easter Perspective**



Before last week's Easter service, Braden McCauley, age 7, looked at his mother, Cheryl, and said, "I know what the giant "M" stands for."

## **Celebrating the Story**



"I hope this music helps everyone get back into the Word and dig a little deeper and see what God has waiting for you, and how it can help write your story."

- Nichole Nordeman, GMA DOVE Award winner

We have been so thankful for all the participation through the readings, the blogs, attending worship and all the conversations around the church-wide emphasis of "The Story." It's been an incredible time, don't you think?

So, we want to celebrate and we want to celebrate big! Drum roll, please! We



Nichole Nordeman will be offering a concert at Gloria Dei on Sunday, April 28 at 6 p.m.

have scheduled Nichole Nordeman, a multiple GMA Dove Award winner, including two awards for Female Vocalist of the Year, to offer a concert at Gloria Dei on Sunday, April 28 at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. There will be no charge to attend the concert.

To help cover the cost of the event, we are looking for 100 VIP families or businesses to donate \$100. Each VIP will be given tickets for advance seating. If you are interested in helping with the concert, please contact Bill Clark at bill@p52.org or 515-491-8543.



**To listen to Nichole's music:** Scan this QR code into your smart phone or visit our Web site at www.gloriadeionline.com.

## Servers

Officiant/Liturgist:

5:30 p.m. (FLC) Rev. Phil Robarge

**8 a.m. (Sanctuary)** Rev. Tim Phillips

**9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)** Rev. Tim Phillips

10 a.m. (FLC) Rev. Ron Burcham

11 a.m. (Sanctuary) Rev. Phil Robarge

**Preacher**Rev. Phil Robarge

**Organ** Kathy Brammeier

Acolytes: 8 a.m. (Sanctuary) Alexis Klein

9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) Grace Dawson

**11 a.m. (Sanctuary)** Erin Martindale

Scripture verses: Acts 2:1-13 (NIV) Hospitality Teams 5:30 p.m.(FLC) Team Three

**8 a.m. (Sanctuary)** Team Three

9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) Team Three

10 a.m. (FLC)

11 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Team Three

#### Let's pray!

Prayer requests can be made on the back of the "Welcome" card located in the pews. Please indicate your prayer request and place the card in the offering plate. We have both e-mail and phone prayer chains available. Call Pastor Phillips in the church office, 276-1700, or Diane Young between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 993-3870 with your request.

## **Thanksgivings**

- For our church family
- For our youth and adults who participated in the 30 Hour Famine

#### For the health of

- Jack Fries
- Tanya Richards
- Carol Petersen
- Christine Watson
- Fred Sturdevant
- Lyle Lawson
- Donna Smitly
- Brenda Barron
- Shirley Kramer
- Mike Wasike and family

Steve Crouthamel

#### And for:

- Our families
- Our city
- Our nation
- Our world

#### **Prayer ministry**

To join the prayer team, e-mail Pastor Phillips at: tphillips@gloriadeionline.com with your name, e-mail address and phone number.

# Community Bulletin Board

As we learn more from "The Story," we realize that we have been commissioned to serve those in need. Below are a few opportunities where we can serve.

## **Thrivent Builds**

Needs your help! Are you ready to build? Thrivent Financial is continuing its partnership with Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity. Work on this year's home at 2208 Garfield, Des Moines will begin on May 1 and conclude in early August.

We need your help!

- Sign up as a volunteer to help in the construction process; go to gdmhabitat.org and click on Thrivent Builds. Note: You don't need to be a skilled worker to volunteer.
- Be a "site host" for the first hour of the work day to welcome volunteers and ensure all are appropriately registered.
- 3) Prepare and deliver lunches to the workers at the job site.
- 4) Help us provide the necessary funds that we need to complete the house. While Thrivent contributes matching funds for the majority of the costs, we are still in need of personal and/or church donations to ensure completion.

Any questions you have can be referred to the Two Rivers Chapter Thrivent Builds Specialists: Ken, 979-1032; Roger, 249-1274; Keith, 402-6586; and Mike 250-1023.

## **AGAPE Pregnancy Center**

The Mission of the AGAPE Pregnancy Center is to demonstrate the truth and unconditional love of Jesus Christ to girls, women and their families experiencing unexpected pregnancy in a safe and confidential environment.

Agape's current need's list includes: cash donations, new cribs, new infant car seats, gift cards to Target or Walmart, newborn diapers, paper towels, toilet paper and bottles of water. Please place the material donations in the gray tub in the Narthex. Checks to Gloria Dei with Agape on the memo line may be dropped in the offering plate or at the church office. Thank you for your support, it is much appreciated.

Volunteers are also needed, including Registered Nurses. For questions, contact Joyce Larson at 221-4491.

# Ankeny Christian Academy

Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ankeny Christian Academy, 1604 West 1st St., Ankeny, will hold its Spring Craft and Vendor Fair. In addition to 50 crafters and vendors, they will feature a bake sale, breakfast and lunch concessions. All proceeds benefit Ankeny Christian Academy.

## **Freedom Banquet**

Sunday, April 28 at 5:30 p.m.

Operation Barnabus will hold a freedom banquet for veterans, current military and their guests at the Pavilion at Camp Dodge. The cost is a minimum donation of \$10 per person. The proceeds from the event will be donated to the Des Moines Veterans' Hospital. For reservations, contact Linn Hayden at 664-7359.

# **Mount Olive Lutheran School**

Saturday, April 13 at 5 p.m.

Mount Olive Lutheran School will host their annual fund-raising evening on Saturday, April 13 at 5 p.m. at the Johnston Lion's Club, 6401 Merle Hay Road, Johnston. A BBQ dinner will be served and attendees will bid for tasty desserts. Wear your favorite beach attire for an evening of exciting live and silent auctions! Tickets are \$15 (individual) or \$100 (for a table of 8). Please call 277-8349 to make reservations.

# **Gloria Dei Youth Ministry**

#### **Castaway**

Sundays at 9:50 & 11:20 a.m. Join us in "The Story" discussion.

## **Junior High Small Groups**

Wednesdays from 6:45-8 p.m. Students in grades 6-8 meet in small groups discussing various topics that are relevant to their lives.

## Spring Retreat - "Me and the I AM"

Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13. Meet at Gloria Dei at 5 p.m.

## **High School Bible Study**

**Sundays at 9:30 a.m.**Join us in "The Story" discussion.

#### **The Point**

Wednesdays from 6:45-8 p.m. Join us on Wednesdays from 6:45 to 8 p.m.

#### **Meat Smokers**

We are looking for smokers for a May 5 fundraiser, please contact TK for information on this event.

## **Service Opportunities**

Servers needed for the Dinner Theater on Friday, April 19, Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21. Sign-up sheet is on the youth bulletin board.

## **Dinner Theater - Noah County Fair**

Rehearsal schedule is Sunday, April 7 from 12-2:15 p.m.; Sunday, April 14 from 12-2:15 p.m.; Monday, April 15 from 6-8:30 p.m.(tech night) and Wednesday, April 17 from 8-10 p.m. (dress rehearsal).

## Men's Study - 33 Series - Volume 2

Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Overtime, 4810 86th St., Urbandale

Every man's life tells a "story." Every man must understand and come to grips with the defining moments and key relationships that have shaped his unique "story." This volume of "33 The Series: A Man and His Story" provides men with a biblical perspective of their "story" and equips them to embrace how their past has affected their present and prepares them to deal with the future. Cost for book is \$20.

## Women's Connection - Malachi

Monday, April 8 - Monday, June 3 at 9:30 a.m or 6:30 p.m.

"Malachi: A Love That Never Lets Go" is an eight-session women's Bible study on the book of Malachi. Lisa Harper's first video Bible study with LifeWay focuses on God's mercy. On our worst day, God doesn't walk away from us; His love for us is not determined by our performance. No matter how many times we mess up, God loves (and never leaves) broken people. The cost for the book is \$15. If interested, contact Lisa Scherer at scherer\_family@q.com or at 515-440-2131.

## **Quilters**

Saturday, April 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Only a few months left before we send our quilts off to their new homes, but there's plenty of time to get a start and finish a quilt. Beginner lessons are available.

## Scrapbook Fellowship

Friday, April 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, April 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Come join the fun. For childcare, contact Carol Wenndt by April 10 at 306-4352 (phone or text) with the date, times (start and finish) as well as the number of children.

## GirlZ of Faith

Sunday, April 14 from 6-7:15 p.m.

Girls in grades 4 and 5 are invited to a bimonthly meeting at the church. It will be a time for fellowship, Bible study, crafts, activities, snacks and tons of fun.

## Week of April 6-13, 2013

Saturday, April 6

5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service

in the Family Life Center

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Sunday, April 7

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in

Sanctuary with Communion

8:20 a.m. Grace Place

9:30 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship Service in

Sanctuary with Communion

9:30 a.m. Senior High Bible Study

9:50 a.m. Grace Place 9:50 a.m. Castaway

9:50 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Chuck Corell)

10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in

the Family Life Center

10:20 a.m. Grace Place

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

in Sanctuary with Communion

11:20 a.m. Castaway 11:20 a.m. Grace Place

12:15 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal2:00 p.m. Angie Gage Music Recital

Monday, April 8

9:30 a.m. Mom's Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connections

9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study1:00 p.m. A Matter of Balance

6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connections

6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Tuesday, April 9

10:30 a.m. Iowa Association of Adoption Agencies

6:00 p.m. Thrivent Board

7:00 p.m. Encourage Each Other Study

Wednesday, April 10

10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study1:00 p.m. A Matter of Balance

5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive

6:00 p.m. "The Story" Adult Study

6:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

6:45 p.m. Junior High Small Groups 6:45 p.m. Senior High - The Point

7:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study - 33 Series (Off-site)

8:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal

Thursday, April 11

9:30 a.m. Naomi Circle10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers2:00 p.m. Home School Choir

7:00 p.m. Operation Barnabas Meeting

Friday, April 12

8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship 3:00 p.m.. Senior High Retreat

Saturday, April 13

8:30 a.m. Gloria Dei Quilters8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship

5:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship in the

Family Life Center with Communion

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

Easter Worship Services (March 30-31)	Attendance
5:30 p.m. (FLC)	274
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)	166
8:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)	400
9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)	689
10:00 a.m. (FLC)	148
11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)	340
Total	2,017

Maundy Thursday Services	Attendance	Communion
12:15 p.m. (Sanctuary)	76	71
6:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)	167	135
7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)	82	49
Total	325	255

Good Friday Services	Attendance
12:15 p.m. (Sanctuary)	95
4:30 p.m. (FLC)	96
6:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)	243
7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)	136
Total	570

# Week of April 13-20, 2013

#### Saturday, April 13

8:30 a.m. Gloria Dei Quilters8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship

5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship in the

Family Life Center with Communion

5:50 p.m. Grace Place

#### Sunday, April 14 (Mission Fair- Center Wing)

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in

Sanctuary

8:20 a.m. Grace Place

9:15 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Dan Snyder)

9:30 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship Service in the

Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Senior High Bible Study

9:50 a.m. Grace Place 9:50 a.m. Castaway

9:50 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Chuck Corell)

10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Family Life Center with Communion

10:20 a.m. Grace Place

10:45 a.m. "The Story" Adult Study (Dan Snyder)

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in the

Sanctuary

11:20 a.m. Grace Place 11:20 a.m. Castaway

12:15 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal3:30 p.m. Girl Scout Brownie 541

4:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 407 4:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 806

6:00 p.m. GirlZ of Faith

#### Monday, April 15

9:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study9:30 a.m. Moms' Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Connections

1:00 p.m. A Matter of Balance

1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
6:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Tech Night
6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Connections

6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

#### Tuesday, April 16

10:00 a.m. Sr. Adult Ministry MAT

7:00 p.m. Encourage Each Other Women's Study

#### Wednesday, April 17

10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
1:00 p.m. A Matter of Balance
5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
6:00 p.m. Faith Alive

6:00 p.m. "The Story" Adult Study 6:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale 6:45 p.m. Junior High Small Groups 6:45 p.m. Senior High - The Point

7:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study - 33 Series (Off-site)7:30 p.m. Tiny Treasures' Consignment Sale Setup

8:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Rehearsal

#### Thursday, April 18

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study

9:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures' Consignment Sale Setup

10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers2:00 p.m. Home School Choir6:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Foundation

#### Friday, April 19

8:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures' Consignment Sale

6:30 p.m. Dinner Theater

#### Saturday, April 20

8:00 a.m. Tiny Treasures' Consignment Sale5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Service

in the Family Life Center

5:50 p.m. Grace Place6:30 p.m. Dinner Theater

Outpouring of Love (March 30-31)		
General Fund Offerings	\$44,979	
General Fund Offering Budget	\$38,000	
3rd QTD Offering	\$44,979	
3rd QTD Budget	\$38,000	
YTD Offering Total	\$1,319,830	
YTD Offering Budget	\$1,367,000	

# Welcome to Gloria Dei! We are glad you are here!

We encourage families to worship together before children (ages 3-grade 5) are invited to Grace Place on Saturday evenings at 5:50; Sunday mornings at 8:20, 9:50, 10:20 and 11:20. Junior high youth (grades 6-8) are invited to Castaway at 9:50 and 11:20 a.m.

#### 5:30 p.m. Saturday $\mid$ Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

This contemporary service offers a unique come-as-you-are worship experience on Saturday evening. A gathering of celebration will be led by our worship team and band in the Family Life Center, inviting worshipers to lift anthems to our God. There will be time for intimacy with God, reflection on his promises and the opportunity to grow as his Word is declared.

#### 8:00 a.m. Sunday | Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

This worship service is based on traditional hymns and liturgy. The music is organ led with offerings of special music, offertories and communion hymns led by the piano. Our special music groups and choirs perform on a regular basis.

#### 9:30 a.m. Sunday | Traditional Blend Worship in the Sanctuary

This service offers a blend of instruments, from piano and organ to brass and percussion. Large group choirs as well as small group vocal and instrumental ensembles offer special music. The liturgy is specifically designed to enhance the life of the believer, by supporting the current study of God's Word at Gloria Dei.

#### 10:00 a.m. Sunday | Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

This high-energy service offers a casual setting for those who enjoy a come-asyou-are contemporary environment. A gathering of celebration will be led by our worship team and band in the Family Life Center, inviting worshipers to lift anthems to our God. There will be time for intimacy with God, reflection on his promises and the opportunity to grow as his Word is declared via this video venue.

#### 11:00 a.m. Sunday | Contemporary Worship in the Sanctuary

This contemporary service has a unique style of its own as we combine the present day sounds of contemporary music with a worship band in the awe inspiring setting of the Sanctuary. This service includes uplifting songs of celebration as people gather together responding to our God.

#### Other important items

**Nursery:** Infants to age 3. Located on the lower level with access through the doors in the Narthex. The nursery is staffed during all worship services for children ages 3 and under at no cost to the parent.

**Cry room:** Located in the southwest corner of the Narthex is a room with a full view of the Sanctuary for parents to take their small children.

#### Weekly Bible reading - Acts 2:1-4 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

#### **Educational times**

Children (ages 2- grade 5)

#### **Grace Place**

Saturdays at 5:50 p.m. Sundays at 8:20, 9:50, 10:20 & 11:20 a.m.

#### Faith Alive

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

**Youth** (grades 6-12) Times vary, check page 5.

#### **Adults**

Times vary, check pages 6-7.

#### Communion

Communion is offered on the first and third Sundays of each month during the services in the Sanctuary and the second and fourth Saturdays and Sundays during the services in the Family Life Center.

A note to our guests and visitors: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Gloria Dei in the belief and with the confession that this Sacrament is the very body and blood of Christ (The Doctrine of the Real Presence) which is received with the bread and the wine for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our faith. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and seek to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. If you agree with our beliefs regarding the nature and meaning of this Sacrament and desire to commune with us, you are welcome! For the medical and/or physical needs of members or visitors, non-alcoholic wine will be in the inner circle of each communion tray and will be lighter in color than the regular wine. In addition, gluten-free wafers are available, in small plastic cups.