



Advent Worship Celebration - Joy

We are looking at the gift of joy this weekend. It is a wonderful gift from God as we will further discover.

Please remember that the **8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services in the Sanctuary** will be blessed with Scripture, a message and special music anticipating and celebrating the birth of our Savior Jesus!

We will maintain our normal weekend worship service times, but the 8 and 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary will be filled with special music. **There will be Grace Place on Saturday but not on Sunday.**

Visiting today?

Welcome! We are glad you are here. There is a gift waiting for you at the Connection Center!

Got children? Awesome! We have a wonderful nursery for infant-4 years old. Please go through the "nursery" door in the southwest corner of the Gathering Area outside the Sanctuary. We also have an educational time on Saturdays at 5:45 p.m. and Sundays at 9:45 and 11:15 a.m. for children ages 3-grade 5.

Got questions? Please stop by the Connection Center where there will be a friendly person to assist you.

Please Return Your Pledge Cards

If you have not turned in your pledge cards, please do so soon. There are extra pledge cards in the Sanctuary and the FLC. Thank you for supporting the vision and mission at Gloria Dei.

Youth in the Kitchen = Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, Dec. 10, starts at 7:30 a.m.

The youth and their parents are in the kitchen again. This time they are cooking pancakes and ham along with some other goodies. Please stop by and enjoy the fruit of their cooking. A free-will donation will be collected for youth trips. Thank you for your support.

Senior Adult Ministry Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10, at 4:30 p.m.

For those who have registered, please remember that we have a seat for you. We will have lots of singing and other Christmas activities. Bring a nativity scene for a display for the evening. See you then!

Advent Worship - "Gifts from God"

We look forward to deepening our discipleship with our Advent midweek services on Dec. 13 and 20 at 12:15 and 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our youth-led worship services will be the same days but held at 6:45 p.m. in the FLC. (Faith Alive and ReCharge will meet.)

Invite-A-Friend-Fill-A-Bag

The last two years we've invited you to take outreach books to your friends as "invitations" to come to our services on Christmas Eve. This year, we're asking you to take a grocery bag and invite them to not only come on Christmas Eve, but to fill the bag with canned goods for our food ingathering for the Urbandale Food Pantry. Your invitee can give it back to you..or better yet...ask them to bring it themselves on Christmas Eve when they come for worship! Pick up an "Invite-A-Friend-Fill-A-Bag" bag up at the display.

Shepherds, Sheep and a Savior

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3 p.m.

The entire congregation is invited to watch the children as they re-enact the Christmas Story.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
8301 Aurora Ave. Urbandale, IA 50322 • 276-1700 • gdlc.church
Pastor Joe Meyer, Senior Pastor • 777-3892
E-mail: joe.meyer@gdlc.church • Twitter: @KeyRowJoe

WEEKLY WORD

Leading ordinary people to an extraordinary life in Christ.

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. Contact Pastor Phillips at 276-1700, or Diane Young between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 321-1566 with your request.

Rick Buhrke
Paul Buttenhoff
Shannon Smuck
Maddie Wright
Bob Christensen
Tim McClelland
Ken Lee
Rustin Aufdenkamp
Jennifer Dehnert
Larry Lewis
Jessica Kramer
Heather Kusel
Amy Luetje (Phillips)
Mike Burdick
Sandy Foreman
Paxton Bremer
Larry Kinsey
Sarah Smith
Julie Bowie
Cooper Driscoll
The grieving friends and family of Linda Mosier

Amazon Smile

Gloria Dei is a registered charitable organization in the Amazon Smile program. If you do any online shopping through Amazon, you can simply go to smile.amazon.com, search for and select "Gloria Dei Lutheran Church" in Urbandale. The site is the same as [Amazon.com](https://amazon.com) and 0.5% of your purchase total will flow back to Gloria Dei. This is a very easy way to help your church as you go about your online Christmas shopping!



Register today!
Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m.
Bring your family to an afternoon of Christmas fun as we travel to Bethlehem to hear about Jesus.
(Cost: \$10 per family)

Register at www.GDLC.CHURCH



Let's give!

1. Pick up a tag.
2. Purchase the item.
3. Drop off the item.

Drop items off by Sunday, Dec. 17!

Visit the Giving Tree today!

This year we are giving food items to families at Laurel Village. We will also have tags for household items for a few families who have great need. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Phillips at tim.phillips@gdlc.church or DeAnn McCue at deann.mccue@gdlc.church.

The entire congregation is invited to Tiny Treasures' Christmas program.



Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Pastor Bill Clark

Pastor Clark, our Pastor for Missions/Men's Ministry, has been serving as Interim Pastor at Christ Our Savior in Norwalk for the last six months. The Iowa District West has been very thankful for Pastor's ministry there and has now encouraged Christ Our Savior to extend a Divine Call to Pastor Clark to be their full-time Pastor. Christ Our Savior will meet December 20th to consider the merits of that very thing. Our thoughts and prayers are with Pastor Clark, Lesli and their family, as well as Christ Our Savior, as together they seek the Lord's will!

Marriage on the Rock Class

Begins Thursday, Jan. 11 through March 1

Whether you've been married for years or just preparing for the journey, Marriage on the Rock will transform your relationship. Discover God's design for your dream marriage. Registration is available at GDLC.CHURCH. If you have any questions, contact Janet Strachan at j.strachan@mchsi.com or 515-707-7205.

Monday's Women's Bible Study

Monday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Join a group of women for an hour discussion on "In the Shadow of Jezebel" by Mesu Andrews. If you need childcare, please let us know.

Join us Christmas Eve!

Candlelight Worship Services

Saturday, December 23

5:30 p.m.*

(Contemporary - Family Life Center)

Sunday, December 24

12:00 · 2:00 · 4:00* · 6:00* p.m.

(Traditional - Sanctuary)

8:00 p.m.

(Contemporary - Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m.

(Contemporary - Family Life Center)

*LIVESTREAM will be available.

Important Information Surrounding Christmas Eve

Worship Service on Sunday, Dec. 24 at 9 a.m.

Please note that we will have a regular worship service in the Sanctuary with communion.

Parents: We are excited for your children to be able to experience Christmas Eve at Gloria Dei. Since worship services will be held both in the Sanctuary and the Family Life Center, we thought you may have a couple questions:

What Christmas Eve service should children

attend? Any of them! Even though the services vary from traditional to contemporary (*see graphic to the left*), they are all great for families, so please select the one that best fits into your family schedule.

Children can pick up an activity booklet and crayons before worship on a table in the Gathering Place and in the FLC. In lieu of candles, glow sticks will be available for your children.

When will the nursery be open? We will provide a safe and loving place for your children on Christmas Eve. Our nursery will be open for children ages 3 and under on Saturday from 5:15-6:45 p.m. and Sunday from 11:45 a.m.-9:15 p.m.

Faith Alive will not meet Dec. 27 & Jan. 3.

Grace Place will not meet Dec. 23-24 & Dec. 30-31.

Christmas Day Service: Join us Monday, Dec. 25 at 9 a.m. for worship.

Urbandale Food Pantry Ingathering

As you might expect at this time of year, we will be gathering non-perishable food for the **Urbandale Food Pantry**...but there's a twist this year. We intend to gather the food (see display in the FLC and Gathering Place) all of November and all of December, too. The twist is...we won't deliver the food until after the first of the year! Doing it that way should prove to be a huge blessing to Urbandale Food Pantry efforts as we will bring the food to them after the Holiday rush when most food pantries are hurting for stock.

Please bring your items now
through Christmas!

INGATHERING

← Items →

- cereal
- beans
- rice
- pasta
- diapers
- baby wipes
- peanut butter
- canned soup
- canned fruit
(in water or 100% juice)
- canned tuna & chicken
(in water)
- canned vegetables
- canned tomatoes

The next 9 days...

Saturday, Dec. 9

- 1:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
- 2:00 p.m. Birthday Party for Dee Dennis
- 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship (FLC)*
- 5:45 p.m. Grace Place

Sunday, Dec. 10

- 7:30 a.m. Youth Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Advent Worship Celebration (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Advent Worship Celebration (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (FLC)*
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #763
- 3:00 p.m. Shepherds, Sheep & a Savior Children's Program
- 4:30 p.m. Senior Adult Christmas Party

Monday, Dec. 11

- 9:30 a.m. Monday Digging Deeper Bible Study
- 2:00 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study on Monday
- 4:00 p.m. Young Patriots Meeting
- 5:45 p.m. Urbandale Girl Scouts Service Unit Meetings
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Digging Deeper Bible Study

Tuesday, Dec. 12

- 6:30 a.m. ICA Archery Practice
- 3:15 p.m. ICA Archery Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale
- 7:00 p.m. Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 13

- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study
- 12:15 p.m. Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 6:00 p.m. ReCharge Meal, Opening and Small Groups
- 6:30 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 6:45 p.m. Advent Worship Service-Youth led (FLC)
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Bell Choir

Thursday, Dec. 14

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 6:30 a.m. ICA Archery Practice
- 9:30 a.m. Naomi Circle Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
- 3:15 p.m. ICA Archery Practice
- 5:15 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #236
- 6:30 p.m. Flute Ensemble
- 7:00 p.m. Operation Barnabas

Friday, Dec. 15

No activities

Saturday, Dec. 16

- 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship (FLC)
- 5:45 p.m. Grace Place

Sunday, Dec. 17

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)*
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday Morning Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Traditional Blend Worship (Sanctuary)*
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (FLC)
- 9:45 a.m. Grace Place
- 10:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary)*
- 11:15 a.m. Grace Place
- 1:00 p.m. Girlz and Boyz of Faith
- 2:00 p.m. Chapel at Glen Oaks
- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Express

Outpouring of Love (Nov. 26-Dec, 2, 2017)	
General Fund Offerings	\$28,369
General Fund Offering Budget	\$28,100
2nd QTD Offering Total	\$333,430
2nd QTD Budget	\$311,600
YTD Offering Total	\$689,642
YTD Budget	\$670,500
Please note: Our fiscal year runs mid-year (July-June)	

Security Team

We have begun forming a security team to formulate a more cohesive plan of keeping our church and members safe. We are looking for additional individuals who are interested in serving in a capacity related to this effort. If you would like to participate or you have questions about how you could serve, please contact Chris Thomson at chris.thomson@gdlc.church or at 777-3895. Thank you.

* Communion is in the Sanctuary the 1st and 3rd weekend and in the FLC the 2nd and 4th weekend.

We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. We encourage families to worship together before children are invited to Grace Place on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 9:50 a.m. and 11:20 a.m.

Children:

(Infant to age 4):

Nursery: Located on the lower level, the nursery is staffed during all worship services for children ages 3 and under at no cost to the parent. The nursery can be accessed through the door on the southwest side of the Connection Center.

Communion:

The Lord's Supper or Communion is a Biblical event, given by Jesus for the strengthening of our faith and the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26). God's Word is very clear that when we receive the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper we also literally/physically receive the actual body and blood of Jesus (1 Corinthians 10:16 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-30). If you are a baptized Christian who trusts in Christ's presence, recognizes your sinfulness, and desires not only to be forgiven of those sins, but also needs strength from Jesus to amend your daily life, then you are welcome to join us! If you do not believe Christ is present, or are unsure of what you believe and want further explanation, then please feel free to speak with one of our Pastors at a convenient time. (We provide both non-alcoholic wine in the center of the tray and gluten-free wafers in containers.)