

## Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

[www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)

215-389-1513

*September 28, 2025*

*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Proper 21*

### **Ministry Assistants Today**

Lector: *Cathy Ufheil*

Intercessor: *Candace Roberts*

Usher: *Bob Jenkins*

Altar Guild: *Daria Kulp*

Officiant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Interim Musician: *Adam Haines*

### **Ministry Assistants October 5**

Lector: *Christine Pickup*

Intercessor: *Christine Pickup*

Usher: *Jim Ufheil*

Altar Guild: *Rachel Armstrong*

Officiant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Interim Musician: *Adam Haines*

### ***Welcome to Ordinary Time at Gloria Dei***

The green cloth on the Altar today is a reminder that we have entered the season of "Ordinary Time." As you may remember, this term comes from the Latin word for counting - because we count the Sundays from Pentecost until Advent. The green is also a reminder of our call to growth during this long season. While growth is most noticeable during the dramatic moments of life, God cares about every aspect of our daily lives. In that sense, there are no ordinary moments; instead, we are called to continually grow in the knowledge and love of God – and of our neighbors. So, please join us in counting the days, and in growing as disciples of Jesus.

## Opening Hymn # 375

## Give Praise and Glory Unto God

Hymnal 1982

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**All And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

**All O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*(The congregation is invited to sit for the readings.)*

## First Reading

## Amos 6:1a,4-7

Cathy Ufheil

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.  
Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 146

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul! \*

I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

*(continued...)*

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.  
The LORD shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

**Second Reading            1 Timothy 6:6-19**

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time-- he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Reader            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**All                Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn # 429**

*I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath*

Hymnal 1982

**Gospel Reading**

Celebrant        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke (16:19-31)**

**All                Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house-- for I have five brothers-- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Celebrant        The Gospel of the Lord.

**All                Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The sermon is an opportunity to reflect on the Scriptures we have read in the light of the Christian tradition, the life of this community, and the needs of the world around us. You don't have to agree with the preacher, and further conversation is always welcome!*

*After the sermon, there will be a few moments for quiet reflection. Then the congregation will stand to reaffirm our faith using the Nicene Creed. Some elements may be strange or confusing – and you are invited to engage in conversation and reflection around the Creed. In the life of faith, we sometimes confess more than we fully understand, and God's grace is faithful to meet us wherever we are on the journey.*

## The 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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
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. With the Father and the Son he  
is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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 the People *(the intercessor and the people pray responsively)*

**Candace Roberts**

Celebrant In awe of the God who is Love, and who invites us to ask for what we need, let us prepare ourselves for prayer with a few moments of silence. *(Silence)*

Intercessor For all people in their daily life and work;  
**People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world, remembering especially the victims of warfare in Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, and Sudan – and the dangerous divisions in our own country.  
**People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, remembering especially immigrants and refugees;  
**People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Intercessor For Sean and Daniel, our Bishops; for Chris, our priest, for Rachel, our postulant, for our Vestry, and for all ministers of the Gospel;  
**People For all who serve God in the Church and in the world beyond our doors.**

*(continued...)*

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially: **Christine, Tara, Jeanette, Thomas, Dakota, Emily, Dina, Anthony, Rebecca, Beth, Christine, Charles, Seamus, Thomassina, Gregory, Julie, Denise, Jason, the Juline Family, Barb, Laurie, Jerry, Peggy, JoAnn, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack.**  
*(Long pause for people add their own petitions)*

Intercessor Hear us, Lord;  
**People For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(Long pause for thanksgivings)*

Intercessor We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**People And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, especially David Rivers, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *(Long pause for people to add their own petitions)*

Intercessor Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**People Who put their trust in you.**

Celebrant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

### Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us now confess our sins to God, kneeling as you are able. *(Silence may be kept.)*  
**All God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

*A note about Confession: In dealing with sin and confession, we are acknowledging that there are things in our world and things in our own lives that are in some way broken. We believe that God desires our lives to be marked by justice, freedom, peace, and love (most of all!). By recognizing when we fall short of that standard, we open ourselves to God's unfailing grace and help, rather than dwelling in shame or despair.*

### The Peace & Offertory

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People And also with you.** *(Please share the peace by greeting your siblings in Christ.)*

### Pre-Offertory Hymn # 657

*Love Diving, All Loves Excelling*

Hymnal 1982

### Offertory Sentence

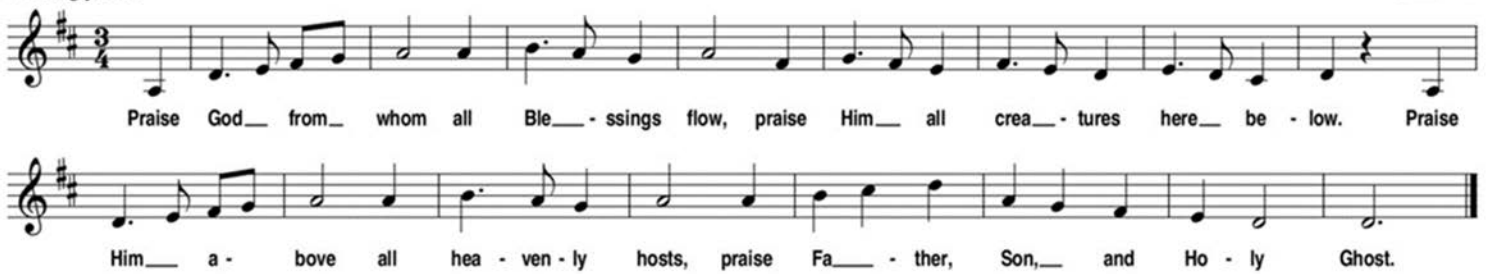
Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, for there is no help in them. But happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! Whose hope is in the Lord their God. *- Psalm 146:2,4*

*Collecting an offering is a way for us to remember that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are to be responsible stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code on the back of the bulletin. After the collection, the offering is brought forward as we stand to sing the doxology.*

*More details about how our practice of Communion are found below.*

Flowingly, in 1

Unknown



## The Holy Communion –Eucharistic Prayer C

- Celebrant God be with you.  
**People And also with you.**  
 Celebrant Lift up your hearts.  
**People We lift them to the Lord.**  
 Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People It is right to give our thanks and praise.** *(Then, facing the Altar, the Celebrant proceeds)*  
 Celebrant God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
**People Glory to you for ever and ever.**  
 Celebrant At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
**People By your will they were created and have their being.**  
 Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for beauty, creativity and love. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
**People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**  
 Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.  
**People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**  
 Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Flowingly

Paul Fejko



- Celebrant On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
**People We celebrate Christ's death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.**  
 Celebrant Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**  
 Celebrant God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal. Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**People (In a loud voice!) AMEN!**  
 Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**All**

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

#### Fraction & Invitation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Celebrant This is the table not of the church but of our Lord Jesus. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Jesus who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

*All those interested in receiving communion should make their way forward to the rail, while the elements are prepared for distribution to the congregation. Episcopal theology recognizes baptism as the formal entry into the Christian community, and baptism is normally a prerequisite to receiving communion. However, we also recognize that God meets us wherever we are on our journey of faith. Moreover, Jesus regularly welcomed and ate with people from outside of his normal community. **Therefore, all are welcome at this table - including children!***

*Kneel or stand at the rail, as you are comfortable. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available – just hold up one finger to receive either of these alternative elements. The priest will distribute wafers, which you receive in your outstretched hands. If you wish to receive the cup, you may drink or dip your wafer; it is also okay to receive the wafer only – we believe that Jesus is fully present in each of the elements of communion. If you prefer not to receive, you are still warmly invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.*

## Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

Celebrant Let us stand and pray together the post communion prayer.

All **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Blessing** Rev. Chris Micklewright

**Announcements** *Please pick up a handout of upcoming events in the back of the church, some of which will be highlighted here.*

**Closing Hymn # 594** *God of Grace and God of Glory* Hymnal 1982

## Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** *Cornet Voluntary* John Travers

***All are invited to listen to the postlude,  
and then to join us for a time of fellowship in Riverside Hall.***

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## ***Gloria Dei Clergy and Staff***

Rev. Dr. Chris Micklewright, Rector  
440-865-1490, rector@old-swedes.org

Christine McBride, Parish Administrator  
215-389-1513, info@old-swedes.org

Jim and Paula Minacci, Sextons

## ***Gloria Dei Vestry***

*Gabrielle Barbour, Ann Brilliant, Angel Guido, Re Henning, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden), Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Cathy Ufheil (Secretary), Jeanette Woehr*

## **Online Giving Available:**

It is possible to give to Gloria Dei on our website,  
[www.old-swedes.org/give](http://www.old-swedes.org/give), or using the QR code:

