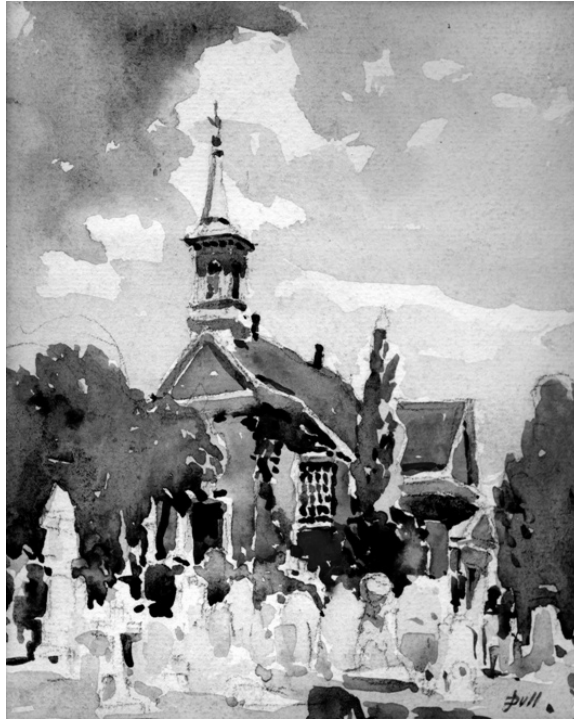




## Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

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

215-389-1513

*September 13, 2026 – Proper 19  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

### **Ministry Assistants Today**

Lector: *Corin Micklewright*  
Intercessor: *Candace Roberts*  
Usher: *Mark Roberts*  
Altar Guild: *Jeanette Woehr*  
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

### **Ministry Assistants September 20**

Lector: *Omega Moore*  
Intercessor: *Charles Moore*  
Usher: *Bob Jenkins*  
Altar Guild: *Christine Pickup*  
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

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

As we head into the fall, we are spending time with Exodus, the second book of the Bible. While Genesis – which we focused on for most of the summer – deals with Abraham and other ancestors of the Judeo-Christian tradition, Exodus depicts the formation of the Israelites as a nation. Indeed, biblical scholar Wil Gafney refers to Exodus as a book of becoming, as we see the people learning who God is, who they are, and what it means to follow God. We are still asking the same questions today, especially during the long season of Ordinary Time. These questions are central to the life of faith, and Jesus calls us to seek ever more generous, hopeful, and life-giving answers. We hope you'll join us on that journey!

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

**People** **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to God, using the Third Song of Isaiah (*Isaiah 12:2-6*).

**All** **Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land; deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise, and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open; by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day;  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.  
Honor and glory to God, and to God's eternal Word, and to God's Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

**All** **O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

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

### First Reading

**Exodus 14:19-31**

**Corin Micklewright**

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

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

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 114

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,  
Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.  
The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.  
The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.  
What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?  
You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?  
Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,  
Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

## Second Reading

### Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

All **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn *Song of Miriam and Moses* (Tune is Kingsfold , same as hymn # 480)

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. O sing aloud to God our strength<br>whose glory conquers all,<br>His mighty power has raised us up<br>While horse and rider fall.<br>We sing in worship, for to God<br>All praise and thanks belong,<br>Our voices raise the melody<br>Of our salvation's song. | 2. This is our God, whom we exalt<br>Until the world shall end;<br>The Lord who saved our fathers will<br>To us his love extend.<br>He did not leave us in our plight<br>But to the rescue came,<br>Our strong defender in the fight,<br>Jehovah is his name. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

(Verses 3 & 4 on next page...)

3. His powerful hand has been our shield  
And glorious is his might,  
And all the hosts of evil now  
are shattered at the sight.  
The breath divine that gave us life  
The mighty flood sets free,  
And so the water's swirling rage  
Devours our enemy.

4. Almighty is the power of God,  
His love will never end,  
He has redeemed us, set us free,  
and leads us by the hand.  
And now he brings us to that place  
Where we may dwell secure,  
The holy house of God shall be  
Our haven evermore.

### **Gospel Reading**

**Rev. Chris Micklewright**

**Celebrant** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew (18:21-35)**  
**All** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

**Celebrant** The Gospel of the Lord. **All** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon** Rev. Chris Micklewright

### **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.**

## Ordinary Time 2026 – Prayers of the People

*Candace Roberts*

- Celebrant Beloved people of Gloria Dei: We have gathered to celebrate God's perfect love for us, and for all of creation. As we seek to reflect that love in both unity and diversity, let us pray for the needs of our community and the world around us. *(Silence)*
- Intercessor For believers around the world and across time, each worshipping God in their own language and traditions;
- People That we might be known by our love for God and for one another. (Silence)**
- Intercessor For America, and all the nations of the world, especially those plagued by violence, corruption, or any other turmoil;
- People That God's justice and peace might flourish in every corner of the earth. (Silence)**
- Intercessor For our leaders and those in authority: in the church... in our community... and across our country;
- People That they might grow in wisdom, humility, and integrity. (Silence)**
- Intercessor For all God's creatures throughout this beautiful and fragile world that God has entrusted to us;
- People That we might be responsible and creative caretakers. (Silence)**
- Intercessor For the needs of this community, and for all who face suffering or distress. Today we pray especially for:
- People Della, Penny, Max, Alexander, Joanne, Isaiah, Deb, Wayne, Bob, Kim, Herb, Karen, Heather, Sara, John, Elia, Eulogio, Sheila, Amy, William, Betty, Dina, Beth, Thomassina, Julie, Denise, Jason, Peggy, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack. (Long silence; additional names may be spoken aloud)**
- Intercessor For those who have died, and for all who grieve;
- People That we might look with hope to the resurrection. (Long silence for names to be added)**
- Celebrant Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Our prayers conclude with a time of corporate confession. In speaking of sin and confession, it is never our goal to dwell in shame or guilt. Rather, we acknowledge that we live in a world beset by evil and injustice, all bearing some degree of responsibility for that reality. This acknowledgement is one of the first steps toward healing what is broken in our lives and in our world – and we trust that God's love is always working for healing, justice, and redemption.*

## Confession, Absolution, and Peace

- Celebrant Let us confess our sins to God. *(silence)*
- 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.**
- 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.)**

**Offertory Sentence**

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die,  
we are the Lord's. *-Romans 14:8*

*Collecting an offering reminds us that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are to be responsible stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests are welcome to support our work of worship, ministry, and preservation - but should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code found on the back of the bulletin.*

Flowingly, in 1 Unknown

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below. Praise  
Him above all heavenly hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**The Holy Communion –Eucharistic Prayer 3** *(from Enriching Our Worship)*

**Celebrant** The Lord 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.**

**Celebrant** All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God, through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb of creation; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we sing with joy:

Flowingly Paul Fejko

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of Po - wer and might, Heav'n and Earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est. Ble - ssed is he who comes,  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - sa - nna in the high - est, ho - sa - nna in the high - est.

**Celebrant** Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all; your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations; you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

Celebrant We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**All Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Celebrant Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

**All Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### Fraction & Invitation

Celebrant Alleluia! We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**All We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread. 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.

### Communion Anthem

*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

Celebrant Let us stand and pray together the post communion prayer.  
All **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## Blessing & Announcements

Rev. Chris Micklewright

## Closing Hymn # 690

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Hymnal 1982

## Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

***All are invited to listen to the postlude, and then to join us in Riverside Hall.  
Today, in place of our usual fellowship time, we will be sharing a meal and having a forum on  
POWER Interfaith's work to address the affordability crisis facing many in Philadelphia.***

## **Call for Food Pantry Donations**

*In recognition of the challenges that many of our neighbors currently face with affording basic necessities, our community is supporting the food pantry at Snyder Avenue Congregational Church (with whom we have collaborated on a number of outreach programs). There is a basket in the back of the church for donations; this month the missions committee is especially asking for donations of peanut butter and canned vegetables, though a full list of needed supplies is also available by the basket.*

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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

Adam Haines, Organist  
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Jim and Paula Minacci, Sextons  
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## ***Gloria Dei Vestry***

*Gabrielle Barbour, Wayne Dietrich, Angel Guido, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden), Matt Mahler,  
Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Seamus Stimpson,  
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:

