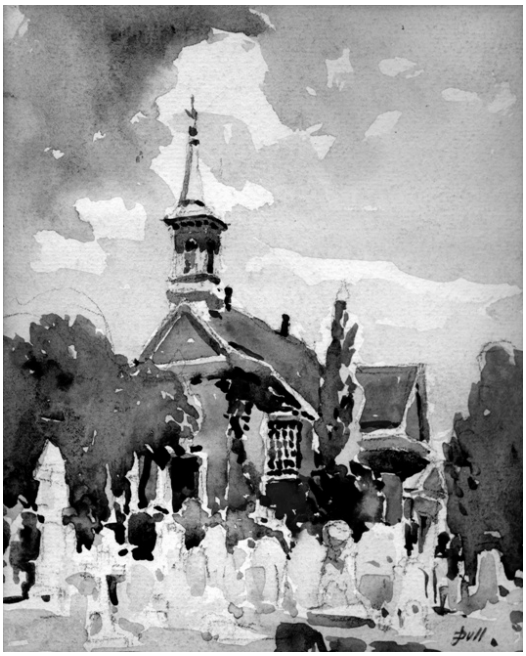


# Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org 215-389-1513

## *November 15, 2026 – Proper 28*
## *Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Ministry Assistants Today**
Lector: *Gabrielle Barbour*
Intercessor: *Nick Bernitt*
Reader: *Giovanni Valentino*
Usher: *Jim Ufheil*
Altar Guild: *Cathy Ufheil*
Organist*: Adam Haines*
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

**Ministry Assistants November 22**
Lector: *Cathy Ufheil*
Usher: *Bob Jenkins*
Altar Guild: *Christine Pickup*
Organist*: Adam Haines*
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

### ***Welcome to Gloria Dei!***

*As we draw near to the end of the year (remember, the new church year begins with the first Sunday of Advent, which is November 29 this year!), we are beginning to plan and budget for the year to come. Therefore, as is our usual practice, the last few weeks of the year will focus partially on stewardship and discerning what God might have in store for us next year. Thankfully, this fits well with our current focus on the Old Testament passages; as we look at these stories, and how they fit into the big story that God is telling with all of creation, we are also able to consider the stories that God is telling in our own community and our own lives. May the Spirit be at work in our hearts and minds during this time, reminding us of God's past provisions, assuring us of God's constant love, and inspiring us to dream about God's future plans.*

**Opening Hymn # 460** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* Hymnal 1982

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** **Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; 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** **Judges 4:1-10** ***Gabrielle Barbour***

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help, for he had nine hundred chariots of iron and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Position yourself at Mount Tabor, taking ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops, and I will give him into your hand.' " Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, I will go, but if you will not go with me, I will not go." And she said, "I will surely go with you; nevertheless, the road on which you are going will not lead to your glory, for the Lord will sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." Then Deborah got up and went with Barak to Kedesh. Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and ten thousand warriors went up behind him, and Deborah went up with him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
**All** **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 123**

To you I lift up my eyes, *
to you enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, *
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, ***(continued…)***

So our eyes look to the LORD our God, *
until he show us his mercy.
Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, *
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, *
and of the derision of the proud.

**Second Reading** **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
**All** **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn # 495** *Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus* Hymnal 1982

**Gospel Reading** **Rev. Chris Micklewright**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew (25:14-30)**
**All** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those servant came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless servant, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

**Sermon** Rev. Chris Micklewright

*The sermon is an opportunity to consider the readings alongside the full witness of Scripture and tradition, asking how these readings impact our lives. You are not necessarily expected to agree with Rev. Chris, and more discussion is always welcome! Following the sermon, we stand together to confess our faith. The ancient Nicene Creed is a helpful guide, but we also know that healthy faith makes room for doubts and questions.*

**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** ***Nick Bernitt***

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** **Charles, 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, **especially Connie Twist and Earl Seppala,** 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, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***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.)*

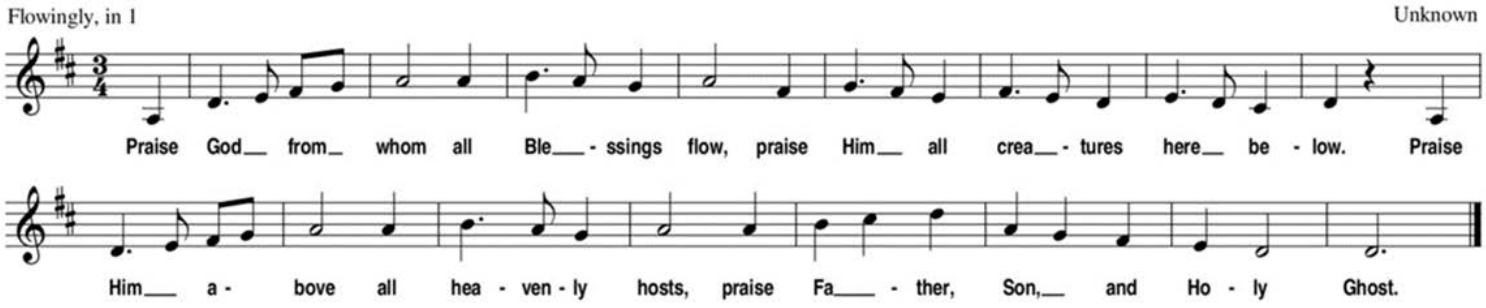
**Pre-Offertory Hymn # 325** *Let Us Break Bread Together* Hymnal 1982

**Stewardship Testimony** Seamus Stimpson

**Offertory Sentence** ***Giovanni Valentino***

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *-Ephesians 5:2*

*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.*




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

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

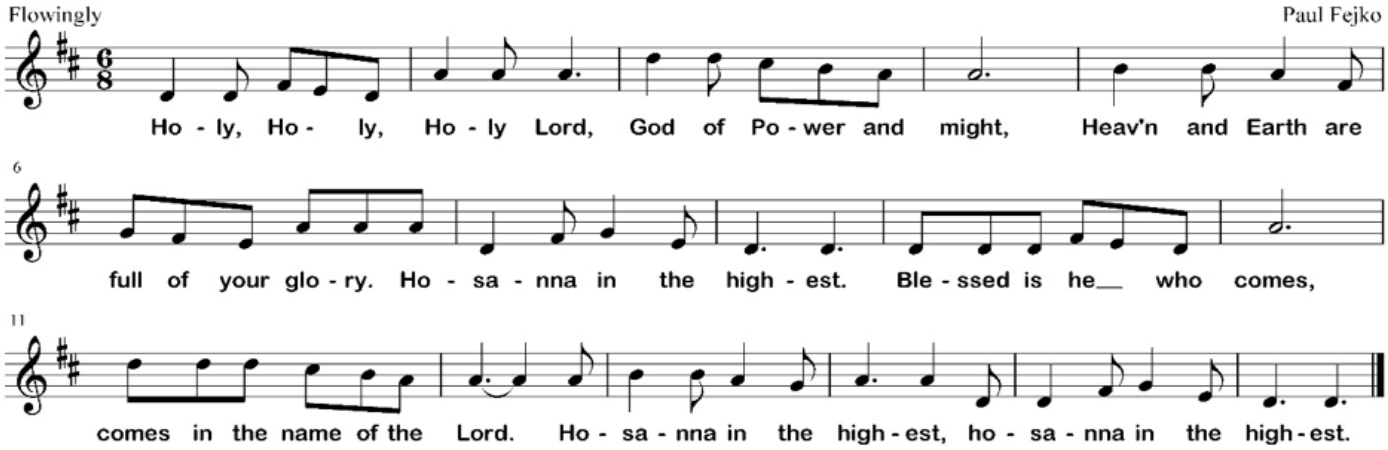
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**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:




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."

Celebrant 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 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 element 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 # 535** *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim* 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 join us in Riverside Hall for a time of fellowship.***

## ***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.*

## ***Favorite Hymns***

*Our organist, Adam Haines, is requesting that churchgoers share their favorite hymns – so that we can prioritize singing them in the coming months. Please leave your feedback for on one of the sheets located on the back table, on the steps up to the organ loft, or using this QR Code:*

## ***Hurricane Isaias***

*Episcopal Relief & Development is working closely with partners to support people affected by Hurricane Isaias. The Hurricane Response Fund provides critical support for both urgent emergency relief and long-term recovery. Please consider making a gift to this fund to support this vital work.*

www.episcopalrelief.org

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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
MobileMusicPhilly.com

Jim and Paula Minacci, Sextons
@SextonSideshow

## ***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, or using the QR code: