

*Welcome to*  
Luther Memorial Church



15 FEBRUARY 2026  
**The Transfiguration**  
10:30 am

## LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

### LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

THE REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

BRYAN TIMM, F.A.I.O.

*Cantor*

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL,

THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH,

THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

*Pastors in Residence*

MICHELLE THOM

*LMA Principal*

JAN MACINNES

*Care Ministry*

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

*Youth and Family Ministry*

## WELCOME!

COME, LET US ADORE HIM!

+ Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.

+ If you have a need to **children's** bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.

- Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.

+ An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for “Handicap Bathroom.” Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.

+ You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshiping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.

+ We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **PRELUDE – "We Three Kings"**

D. R. Edwards

*Handbell Choir*

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

### **GATHERING HYMN**

**ELW 308**

#### **O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!**

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*



**BLESSING OF THE LECTOR**

Let us pray: Gracious God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Send your Holy Spirit upon Karen as she proclaims the Word, so that all who receive it will no longer dwell in the shadows, but will have the light of life.

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18**

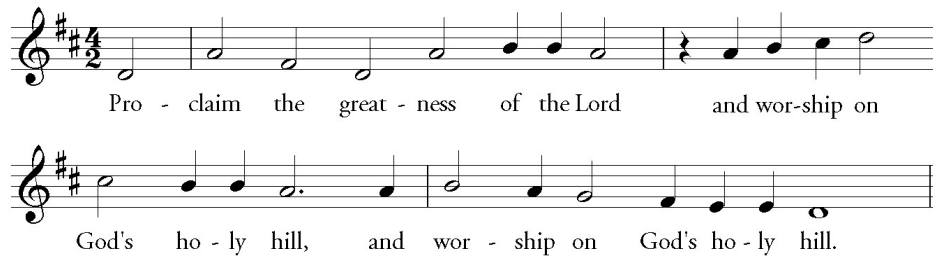
<sup>12</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders Moses had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” <sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day God called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM: Psalm 67**

*The antiphon is introduced by the choir and repeated by all and again just once where indicated. The choir and the congregation sing the verses responsively.*

*Antiphon*



*Tone*



<sup>1</sup>The Lord is king; ... let the [peo]-ple tremble.

The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; ... let the [earth] shake.

<sup>2</sup>**The Lord, ... [great] in Zion,  
is high a-[bove] all peoples.**

<sup>3</sup>Let them confess God's name, ... which is [great] and awesome;  
God [is] the Holy One.

<sup>4</sup>**O mighty King, ... lover of justice, ... you have es-[tab]-lished equity;  
you have executed justice and [righteousness] in Jacob. *Antiphon***

<sup>5</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the Lord ... and fall down be-[fore] God's footstool;  
God [is] the Holy One.

<sup>6</sup>**Moses and Aaron among your priests, ...  
and Samuel among those who call upon your [name] O Lord,  
they called upon you [and] you answered them,**

<sup>7</sup>you spoke to them out of the [pillar] of cloud;  
they kept your testimonies ... and the de-[cree that] you gave them.

<sup>8</sup>**O Lord our God, ... you answered [them] indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them, ...  
yet punished them for their [e]-vil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the Lord ... and worship upon God's [ho]-ly hill;  
for the Lord our [God is] the Holy One. **Antiphon**

## SECOND READING: II Peter 1:16-21

<sup>16</sup>We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For Jesus received honor and glory from God, the Father, when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with Jesus on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 308

### O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words aligned under specific notes and others under rests. The score ends with a double bar line.

3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
heav'n-ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>While Peter was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup>And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son-of-Man has been raised from the dead.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated at the invitation of the pastor.*

## GOSPEL RESPONSE

ELW 308

### O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,  
when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!  
Your Son has rā - somed us in love to live in him here  
and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -  
lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life  
for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## SERMON

Pastor Jay

*After a brief silence for reflection, as the music sounds, please stand to proclaim the Word of God in song.*

## Dazzling Presence on the Mountain



1 Daz - zling pres - ence on the moun - tain: hu - man eye had  
 2 From this mount of mys - tic splen - dor to the cross Christ  
 3 From the heights of new cre - a - tion, Christ be - holds his  
 4 Let our praise ring from each moun - tain, in - to deep - est



nev - er seen such a won - der, such re - splen - dence,  
 press - es on; here no Mo - ses nor E - li - jah,  
 world, re - deemed; as with Pe - ter and com - pan - ions,  
 val - leys pour, where, with lives of grate - ful ser - vice,



heav'n and earth in cloud con - vene.  
 on - ly thieves Christ's wings a - dorn.  
 brings us now to sights un - seen.  
 we a - dore Christ ev - er - more.



"This is my Son, the be - lov - ed," thun - d'rous voice from  
 "Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy," was one's pen - i -  
 Jus - tice, mer - cy, and com - pas - sion: these the booths he  
 To the Son, God's own be - lov - ed, and the Spir - it



cloud ex - claimed. Word made flesh to heal cre - a - tion,  
 ten - tial sigh. With trans - fig - ur - ing as - sur - ance,  
 bids us build, that the earth he loves may flour - ish  
 end - less - ly, may the church's praise be lift - ed



to dis - ci - ples God pro - claimed.  
 Christ re - joins his fer - vent cry.  
 as each life with grace is filled.  
 to the bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Text: Paul E. Hoffman, b. 1956  
 Music: WAVERLY, Karen E. Black, b. 1960  
 Text and music © 2015 Augsburg Fortress

## COUNCIL INSTALLATION

*The congregation is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

The following people have been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership. We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

*The offices and names of those who are to be installed are read by a representative of the congregation.  
 The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

*A reading from First Corinthians:* There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

*The presiding minister continues.*

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church. You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world. You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

*The presiding minister addresses those being installed.*

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

*Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*The congregation stands. Those being installed face the congregation. The presiding minister addresses the congregation.*

People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*Those being installed face the presiding minister, who addresses them.*

I now declare you installed as officers / council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**



Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, for Martin, Matilda, Herman and Judy, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.  
**Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*All share greetings and gestures of peace with those around you.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING



*An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church.*

## MUSICAL OFFERING – "Aria"

G. F. Handel

*Handbell Choir*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW 308

### O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with mu-sic crowned,  
Our voic - es gai - ly blend - ing! For Christ goes with us all the way,  
To-day, to-mor - row, ev'-ry day! His love is ne - ver end - ing!  
Sing out! Ring out! Ju - bi - la - tion! Ex - ul - ta - tion!  
Tell the sto - ry! Praise to Christ, who reigns in glo - ry!

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608  
Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

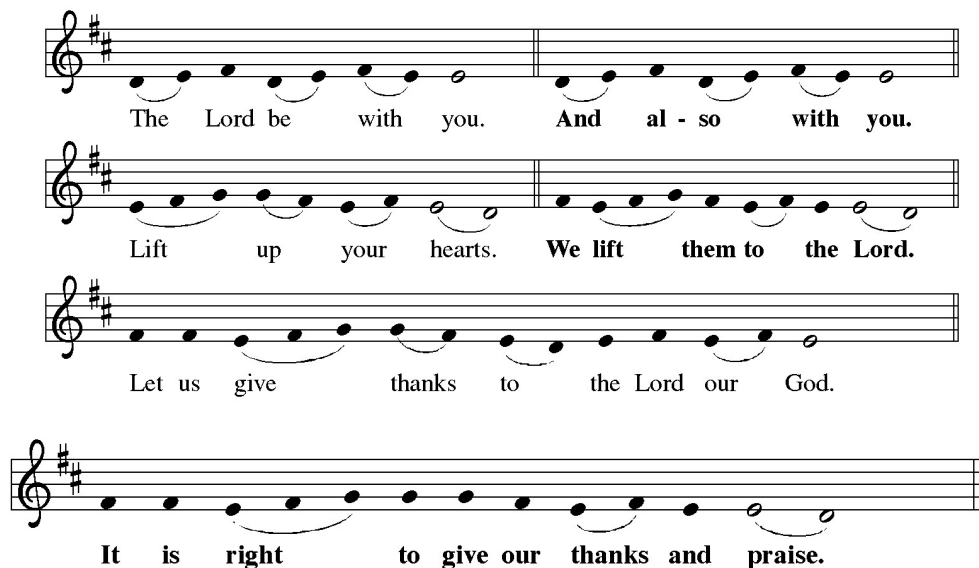
## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### SURSUM CORDA



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

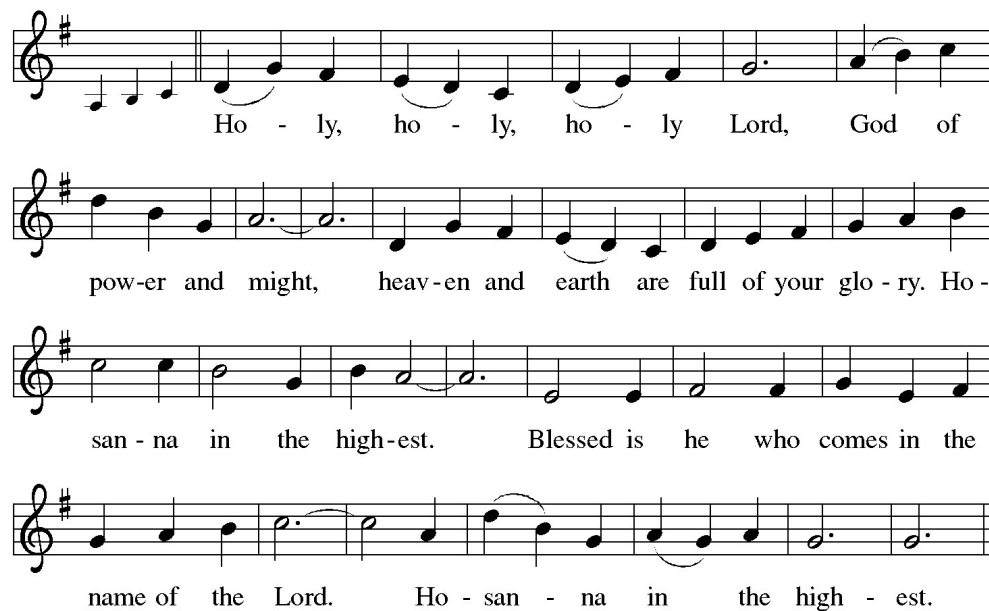
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## THE PROPER PREFACE

*♪ It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:*

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace. From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son, our Morning Star. Christ is our diamond bright, our treasure dear. He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love. He keeps us yours and fails us never—today, tomorrow, and every day.

*On the night before his great salvation,  
he took bread and gave thanks,  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

With joy we tell our story:

**Alleluia!**

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame.

We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. Transport us in our yearning, and be for us the end and the beginning, our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. And so we pray and praise.

**Alleluia, amen!**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

Behold what you are; become what you receive: the Body of Christ broken and shared for the world.

**Amen. We come.**

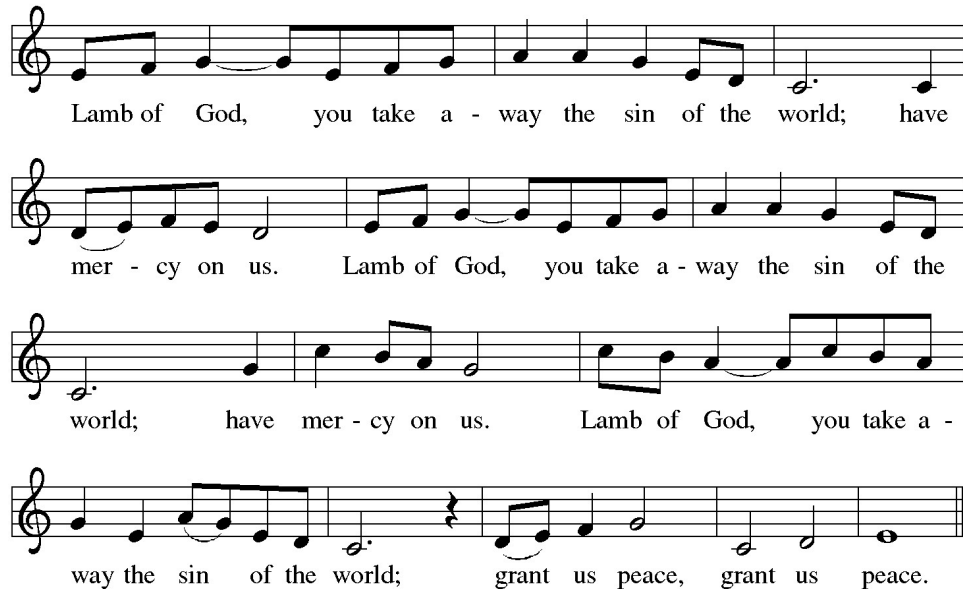
For those communing at home: take, eat, drink: the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

*Please be seated.*

## THE COMMUNION

*This is Christ's Table and the Risen Christ is, himself, present whenever we feast together. **You** are welcome to the feast! Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle. Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle. White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine. Gluten-free wafers are available for those who need them; please let the pastor know. Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill. As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray. All are invited to the meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine, please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.*

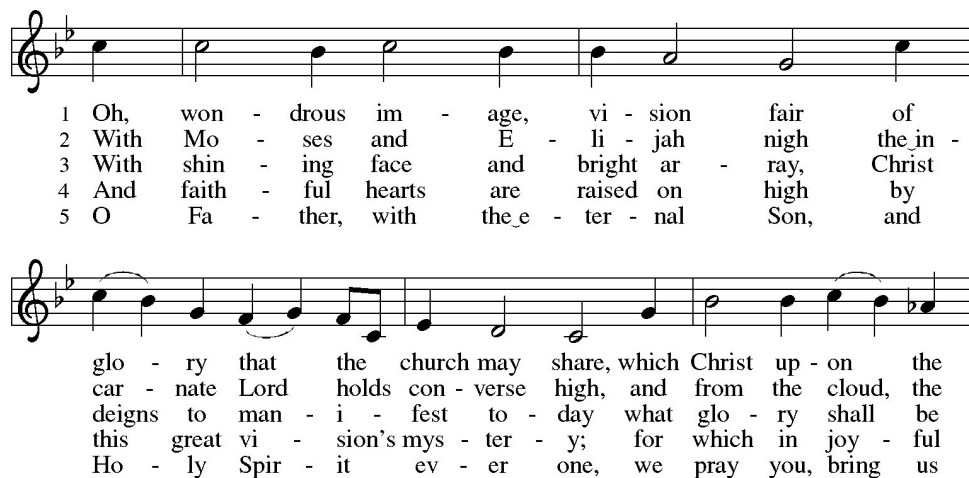
## HYMNS DURING THE COMMUNION




Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

ELW 316

## Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of  
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -  
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ  
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by  
5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and  
glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the  
car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the  
deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be  
this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful  
Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us




moun-tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!  
 Ho - ly One says, "This is my be - lov - ed Son."  
 theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.  
 song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.  
 by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

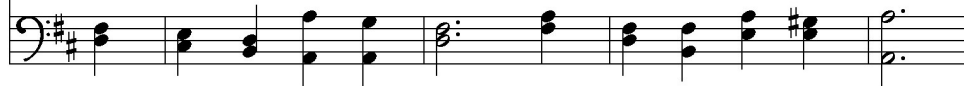

Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

ELW 315


## How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;

your face and gar-ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor-rowed light.  
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes-sen-gers of old.  
 we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re-demp-tion see.  
 we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
 but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.



Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.  
 Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

ELW 671

## Shine, Jesus, Shine

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry.



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow,



flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word,  
 Lord, and let there be light!  
 1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, In the  
 3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, So our  
 midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je - sus, Light of the  
 fac - es dis - play your like - ness, Ev - er chang - ing from  
 world, shine up - on us; Set us free by the truth you now  
 glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your  
 bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.  
 sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.

*Refrain*

Text: Graham Kendrick, b.1950; tr. by Luis Alfredo Díaz and Lori Black Mathis  
 Tune: SHINE, 9 9 10 10 33 with refrain; Graham Kendrick, b.1950, arr. by Tom Fettke  
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## TABLE BLESSING

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

### O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

ELW 308

What joy to know, when life is past, the Lord we love is first and last,  
 the end and the be - gin - ning! He will one day, oh, glor - ious grace,  
 trans - port us to that hap - py place be - yond all tears and sin - ning!  
 A - men! A - men! Come, Lord Je - sus! Crown of glad - ness!  
 We are yearn - ing for the day of your re - turn - ing.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608  
 Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## BURIAL OF THE ALLELUIA

“But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Get up and do not be afraid.’ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, ‘Tell no one about the vision until after the Son-of-Man has been raised from the dead.’”

**Sometimes, deep within, we must keep our Alleluias.**

“Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?’”

**Sometimes, for others, we must give up our Alleluias.**

“When Jesus had received the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”

**Sometimes, in sorrow, we cannot sing our Alleluias.**

“Therefore we have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.”

**Even at the grave, we make our song Alleluia!**

“Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.”

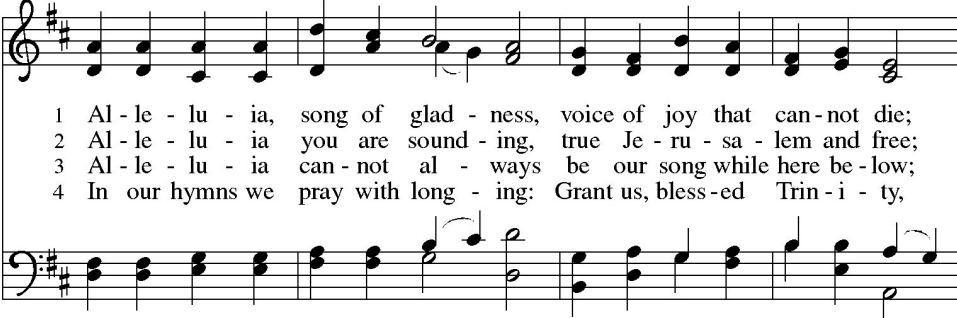
**In due time we will again find our Alleluias.**

## BLESSING

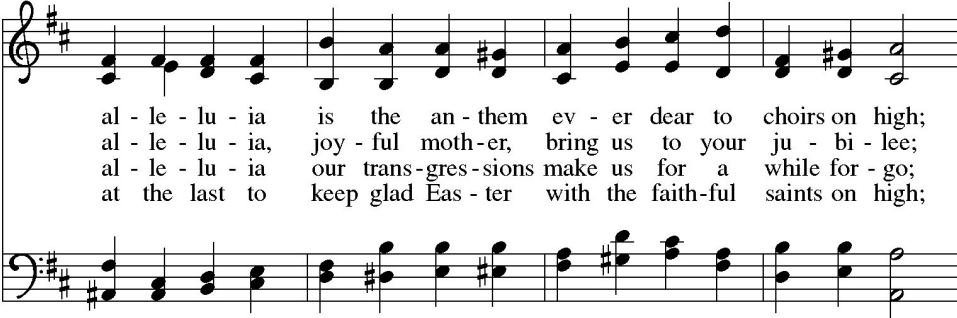
...now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Alleluia, Song of Gladness



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;  
 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;  
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;  
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;  
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
 here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.  
 for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.  
 there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE – "Voluntary"

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*Luther Memorial Church and Academy are located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Erie people. These lands were ceded by the people of the Six Nations on October 22, 1784 in a treaty ratified by the United States Government in 1785 and never ratified by the people of the Six Nations. We gather in this place indebted to these peoples for their forced generosity. While some peoples were successful in resisting assimilation and genocide, and still live on dwindled homelands now, many were absorbed into other peoples, exiled, or annihilated by the United States government for their land. For those who remain and for the land on which we gather, we give thanks to the Creator and to those who have been custodians of this part of Turtle Island since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.*

— **SERVING TODAY** —

*PRESIDING MINISTER* – Pastor Jay Mitchell

*ACOLYTE* – Jessica Copfer

*ASSISTING MINISTER* – Julie Ditz

*COMMUNION ASSISTANT* –

*LECTOR* – Karen Lundwall

*USHER* – Cathy Beck

*ALTAR GUILD* – Martha & Tom Klomp

*VIDEO STREAMING* – Christy Adams



**Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my parents, Matilda and Herman Kleiber, who were married 92 years ago on February 11, 1934, by Lois Smith.

**Front altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Judy Aquino Hokaj, who passed away on February 17, 1997, by Ed Hokaj.

**Today's Events**

**VASA** will meet this afternoon at 1:00pm.

**We give thanks** for our congregational leaders. Below are our council members for 2026. Please keep our Luther Memorial Church Council in your prayers so they may lead with us with wisdom and faithfulness.

Emma Chaffee ( <i>Sec.</i> )	Barb Dennison	Mike Hedlund ( <i>Asst. Treas.</i> )	Nick Lang
Patrick Cimino	Les Fobes ( <i>Pres.</i> )	Greg Kern ( <i>Treas.</i> )	Liz Stroup
Rob Cooney	Jonathan Gaber	Tom Klomp ( <i>Vice-Pres.</i> )	Jonathan Ulrich
Carol Davidson			

**Worship Matters!**

**This is a pivot point** in the life of the Church. In the story of Jesus, the Transfiguration takes place just before he begins his public procession to Jerusalem (more on that in the Wednesdays of Lent). In the life of the Church, we celebrate Transfiguration Sunday on the last Sunday before Lent begins. Indeed, we end our service with a farewell to the Alleluia for a season. We leave the joy and exultation of the mountain of transfiguration and head back down to the people with Jesus. We journey together, then, to the mountain of crucifixion where we will again see the glory of God in the face of our dying Savior. In the meantime, as we journey on the way with Jesus on the plains with us, we reflect more deeply on our relationship with the God who comes to us and loves us into the life of faith. Come, let us celebrate...AND let us turn our faces with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the God who loves us through death itself.

**Faith Formation for All Ages**

**Brown Bag Bible (B<sup>3</sup>)** gathers on Thursdays at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room. You bring a lunch, Pastor Jay brings something to talk about. This year we are using *Crossroads: Reading the Bible in Divisive Times* by Josh Scott. Our next gathering is February 19.

**Bible After Dark (BAD)** meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at 6:30pm at Calamari's Squid Row (1317 State St) for a time of conversation and fellowship. We are using Josh Scott's book *Parables: Putting Jesus' Stories in Their Place*. If you would like to order your book from the church office, the cost is \$14. You may also order your own. **YOU** are invited to join us on Tuesday, March 3 for our discussion on The Wedding Party.

**Four workshops** for confirmation students, 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 9<sup>th</sup> grade, will be offered throughout the year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday (in odd months: **March 8, May 10**) after the 10:30am worship service. In order to successfully complete confirmation classes, each confirmand must attend all four. However, the *same four* will be offered every year in slightly different orders to allow for flexibility in attending all four. There will also be a worship leadership and a biblical literacy component that will need to be completed along with the usual service hours. Finally, ConfirCamp is strongly recommended for *at least* one year between the end of 7<sup>th</sup> and beginning of 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Confirmation will still be held in the autumn of 10<sup>th</sup> grade to each confirmand.

### **Opportunities for Fellowship**

**LIA**, Lutherans in Action, will meet Tuesday, March 10 from 5:30-7:00pm for dinner and planning of our upcoming service projects and some very creative ideas. All youth in grades 5-12 and their families meet the second Tuesday of each month; join us.

**Come and join** us for an escape from reality. Enjoy a relaxing morning with friends at the Magic Fingers Grace Group as you knit your cares away sprinkled with some laughter. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, February 24, from 10:00am– 12:00 noon. Contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

**Lutherlyn summer camp** registration began February 1. Various camps are available throughout the summer for families and youth of all ages.

### **Lenten Season**

**Ash Wednesday** services will be held in the main church on February 18 at 12:00 noon and 7:00pm. Pastor Jay will be offering Individual Confession and Forgiveness on Ash Wednesday from 7:00-8:00am, 10:00-11:30am, and from 4:30-6:30pm in the Luther Chapel.

**Our study series** for our midweek gatherings during Lent will be ***understanding Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All***. During our series we will look at the process of Social Statements in the ELCA, how they come to be and how they are ratified, and what authority they carry within our church.

- Afternoon gathering: 12:00 noon – Worship, 12:30pm – Luncheon, followed by 1:00pm Study Series

**Wednesday evenings** at 6:00pm in Lent we will gather on the fifth floor for Prayer Around the Cross under the theme of “For God So Loved the World”. This brief service (about 30 minutes) is an opportunity for scripture, song, and silence; for prayer and the lighting of candles; and for contemplation of the saving deed of Jesus on the cross “for God so loved the *world*.” The format and much of the music for this service comes from Holden Village—the same source as our popular Holden Evening Prayer.

**Lenten Luncheons** will be offered on Wednesdays in Lent; February 25-March 25 at 12:30pm in fellowship hall. Enjoy a home-cooked meal for only \$10. Macaroni & Cheese will be served at the first Lenten luncheon on February 25. If you would like to help in any way please contact Betty Pletz at 898-1053 or the church office.

**Lenten Kick-off** will be held Wednesday, February 25 at 5:30pm. Bring your family and join us for dinner, a short Bible lesson and a surprise craft. The main dish will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

### **LMA News**

**Lutheran Schools Week** is March 1-7 and we are getting reading to celebrate being BRAVE this year! We will gather on Monday, March 2 at 1:00pm for our Lutheran Schools Week Eucharist. We hope our whole community here at Luther can join together to celebrate this great ministry in Erie. We will be welcoming Pastor Ryan Fitch, Associate Director and Pastor of Lutherlyn for worship.

There will also be an opportunity to vote in the annual souPPPPPer Bowl to see who earns the Golden Ladle.



### Items to Note

**Greeting cards** can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

**In case of a pastoral emergency**, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

### — PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Dorothy Youngman	Ed Hokaj	Rose-Marie Rose	Pat Gilbert
Diane Parsons	Judy Karney	Jeanne Gaber	Loretta Deeds
Friends and Family:			
Mary Beth & Nancy, Kelly	Justin	Linda F.	Jeff Monroe
Gail Lesuer	Gwen Smith	Andrew Wachter	Sullivan
Henderson family	Sandy M.	Shirley	Judy
Kevin Soles & family	Jenny	Carol Johnson	Valerie
Adam & Connie Ogle	Katja & family	Peter Maker	Carol McFalls
Archer Bardwell; age 3	Carl Larese	Richard Come	Sharon Swick
Grief:			
Judith Steff family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins	Christopher Rose	

### Readings and Commemorations This Week.

**February 16** – Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; Exodus 33:7-23; Acts 7:30-34

**February 17** – Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; I Kings 19:9-18; Romans 11:1-6

**February 18** – **ASH WEDNESDAY** – Psalm 51; Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 103:8-14; II Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-20

*also February 18 – Martin Luther, renewer of the church, 1546 – Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.*

**February 19** – Psalm 51; Jonah 3:1-10; Romans 1:1-7

**February 20** – Psalm 51; Jonah 4:1-11; Romans 1:8-17

**February 21** – Psalm 51; Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 18:1-7

## CALENDAR

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

*President's Day*

Church Offices & LMA Closed

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

*Ash Wednesday*

7:00am	Individual Confession and Forgiveness
10:00am	Individual Confession and Forgiveness
12:00pm	Ash Wednesday Worship
4:30pm	Individual Confession and Forgiveness
7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Worship

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

12:00pm	Brown Bag Bible
1:00pm	Grief Group
2:30pm	LMA Play Practice
4:00pm	School Board
5:30pm	Handbells Rehearsal
6:45pm	Choir Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

10:00am Quilting

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

#### THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

**Worship** with us at 8:15am in Faith Chapel and the 10:30am service in the main church.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026

##### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Ellen DiPlacido
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Communion Assistant ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	Linda Graffius
Lector ( <i>1 needed</i> )	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Pastor Jay, Cathie Dugan
	10:30am	Sharon Burke
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	
Video Streaming	10:30am	Nick Lang
Counters	10:30am	
Ushers ( <i>4 needed</i> )	10:30am	Lynnette Gustafson, Amy Scott

YOU KNOW,  
WHEN YOU THINK  
ABOUT IT, THE  
TRANSFIGURATION IS  
JUST WEIRD.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG



BUT THE SYMBOLISM IS PRETTY CLEAR.  
JESUS IS THE ENDURING **WORD OF GOD**,  
PROCLAIMED THROUGH DEATH  
ALL THE WAY TO RESURRECTION.

YOU GOT **ALL THAT**  
FROM THREE GUYS  
STANDING IN THE FOG?



MATTHEW 17:1-9

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