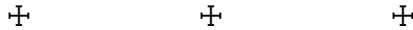




ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



FEBRUARY 11, 2024

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

In today's gospel, Jesus is transfigured revealing him as the very image and light of God. Jesus Christ is the image of God whose light shines in the darkness of the world. The disciples, Peter, James and John, also bear the words, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" When we open our hearts and listen to Christ, his light shines in our lives, and through us, outward in all we do and upon all whom we meet.

GATHERING

Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.

Prelude

"Beautiful Savior"

19th century Silesian folk tune SCHONSTER HERR JESU
Setting for organ by Dale Wood

Please stand as able.

Processional Hymn

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness" ELW 318

PRAISE, MY SOUL

1. Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die;
alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high:
in the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally.
2. Alleluia you are sounding, true Jerusalem and free;
alleluia, joyful mother, bring us to your jubilee;
here by Babylon's sad waters mourning exiles still are we.
3. Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forgo;
for the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin shall flow.
4. In our hymns we pray with longing: Grant us, blessed Trinity,
at the last to keep glad Easter with the faithful saints on high;
there to you forever singing alleluia joyfully.

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

Please be seated.

Welcome

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

The congregation may kneel or sit for the Confession. Silence is kept for reflection.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God, our rock and refuge,

We pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

We have wounded one another and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant. Renew your creation.

Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken:

The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

Amen.

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.

Please stand as able.

Kyrie

“O Lord, Have Mercy” from *Holy Communion Setting Eleven*

Jack Richardson, cantor



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no-so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.
O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad de no-so - tros. Cris - to, ten pie - dad.
O Lord, have . . . mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer - cy.

Leader or All

All



Se - ñor, ten pie - dad. Se - ñor, ten pie - dad.
Have mer - cy, O Lord. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, 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.

WORD

First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

Marty Schwartz, lector

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.” ⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.” ⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. ⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 50:1-6

Amy Woodall, Nick Matherly, cantors

Psalm 50:2(Robert A. Hobby) Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

Out of Zi - on, per - fect in beau - ty,
God shines forth in glo - ry.

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. ²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. ³Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him. ⁴He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: ⁵“Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!” ⁶The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. *Selah*

Second Reading**2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

Marty Schwartz, lector

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*The Word of the Lord***Thanks be to God***Please stand as able.***Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go" from *ACS Holy Communion Setting Twelve*

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

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

The Holy Gospel**Mark 9:2-9***The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter.***Glory to you, O Lord.**

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*The Gospel of the Lord.***Praise to you, O Christ.***Please be seated.***Sermon***"He is the image of God"*

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

*Please stand as able.***Hymn of the Day**

"Shine, Jesus, Shine" ELW 671

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1. Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth
you now bring us. Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain*
2. As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives
tell your story. Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915 Music: William H. Doane, 1832-1915 ©2006 ELCA; Augsburg Fortress Press

The Apostles' Creed

Together, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The service continues with the Prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

(Michael Lakeman, prayer assistant)

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

God of Love, you sent Jesus into the world to spread love and make your word known. We ask that you pour out your Holy Spirit so that we may go forth, as your disciples, acting as a beacon of your light and love, spreading your word, and making Christ known. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Creator God, you love all that you have made and all that has evolved on this earth. Grant us the wisdom to care for it so that future generations and all your creatures may experience this beauty that you have created. Open our eyes so that your love might be reflected in our care for this planet. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God of Peace, Jesus was light in the darkness and a loving leader to his disciples. We ask that you help our world leaders to be instruments of peace. Help them be a source of hope and encouragement to those around them, especially in places that suffer from acts of war. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Lord of Mercy, we pray that you would surround the sick and the dying with your healing, strength, and

hope. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to all in need. We especially ask that you bless and watch over: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, David Kutscher, Oakley Coburn, Arlene Fielding, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Shirley Larson, Ingrid Keiris, Martha Stackel, Tina Wiland, Ben Watson, Louisa Coburn, Mindy Curley, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Sarah Lindberg, Marilyn Denison, Eileen Dunlap, Christopher Shirley, Tanner Grant, Michael Frye, Ken Foust, Gene Ellington, Laura Elliott, Norma Alexander, and Drew Goodson. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Eternal God, we ask for your continued blessing upon this congregation and its ministries. We thank you for compassionate members and friends who respond to the needs of others; may we each in our own way reflect your light which has the power to transform the world with life and hope. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Everlasting Father, we praise you that Christ prepares a place for us at the table in your kingdom. We offer you thanks for the life and witness of Robert Shirley, father of Genna Hurley. Welcome Robert into the blessedness of your eternal kingdom and may he share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Strengthen and comfort the extended Shirley family with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of Christ Jesus. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Peace *(Please stand as able, sharing the peace of the risen Christ.)*
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

Please be seated.

OFFERING *(Offerings for the mission of the church are gathered by the ushers.)*

Anthem "Jesus, on the Mountain Peak" Tune TRANSFIGURATION
Setting for choir and organ by Michael Burkhardt

Jesus, on the mountain peak, stands alone in glory blazing. Let us, if we dare to speak, join the saints and angels praising: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking. All the Prophets and the Law shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Swift the cloud of glory came, God, proclaiming in its thunder, Jesus as the Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Jesus is the chosen One, living hope of ev'ry nation, hear and heed him, ev'ryone; sing with earth and all creation, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Please stand as able.

Offertory *(The offering is brought forward by the ushers)*
"Arise, Your Light Has Come" ELW 314 stanzas 1 & 4 FESTAL SONG

1. Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

4. Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Dick, b. 1947; Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893, T&M: 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

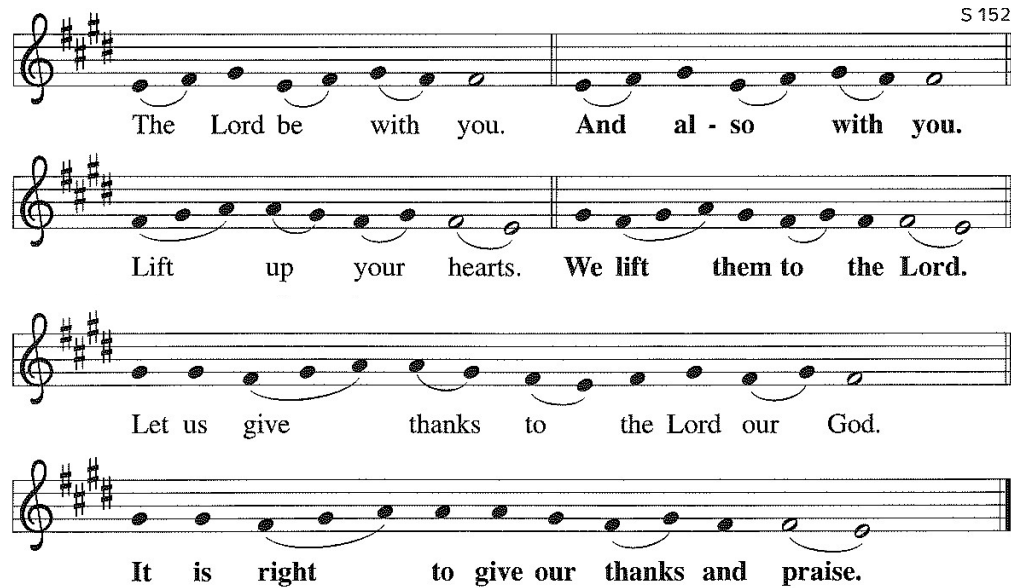
Amen.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Holy Communion Setting Four

S 152



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

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

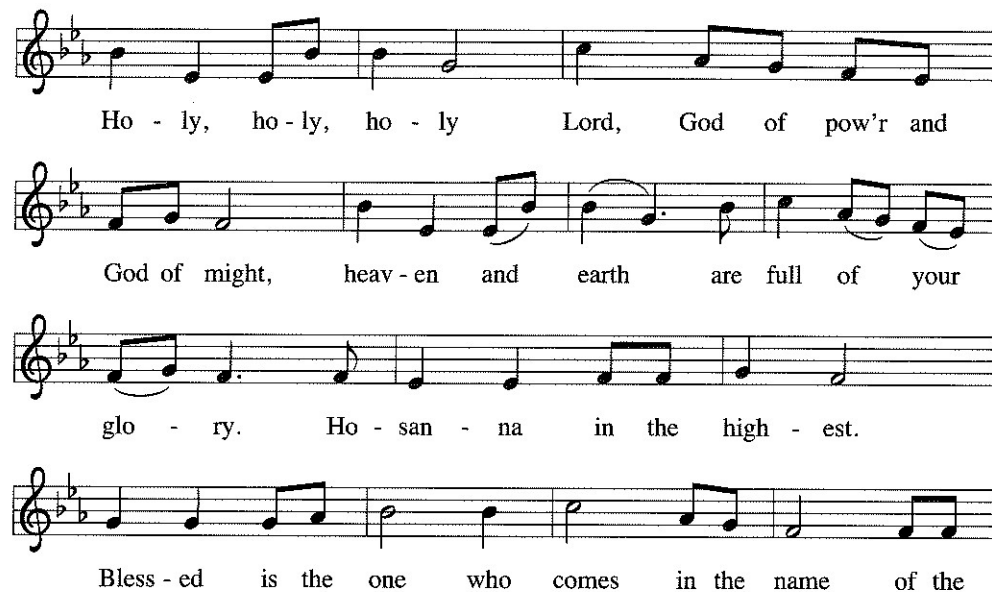
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy” from *All Creation Sings, Holy Communion Setting Twelve*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus 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.

The Lord’s Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

At Jesus’ table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
 Come and see.

Please be seated.

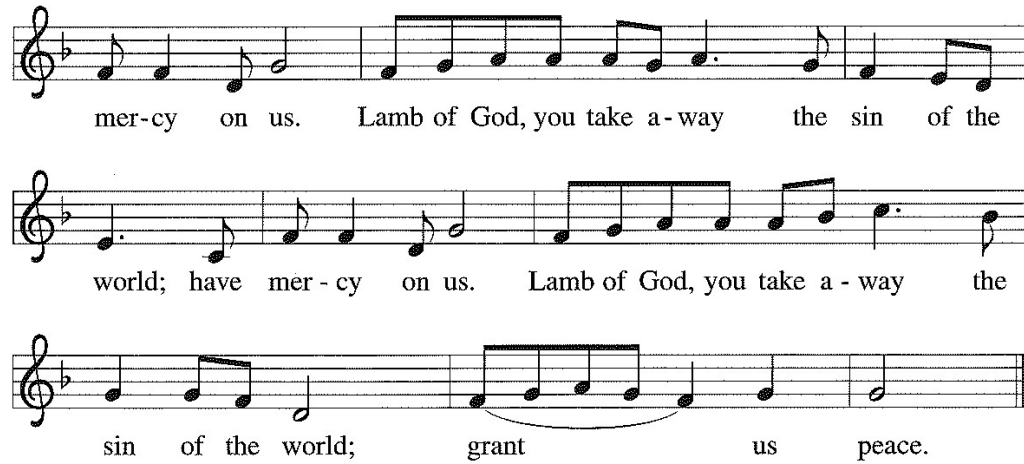
Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered continuously in front of the freestanding altar, or at the rail of the high altar in two ways, by wafer and wine in a small cup or “Communion Kit.” Please follow the ushers’ prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station, and returning via the side aisles. If receiving a “kit” please seal the used utensils in the zip-lock bag, placing the bag after worship in the marked bowl in the Narthex. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

Communion Music

“Lamb of God” from *Holy Communion Setting Four*

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.

“Prelude on ‘I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light’”

Tune HOUSTON by Kathleen Thomerson
 Setting for organ by Wayne L. Wold

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Giver of every gift, Christ’s body is our food, and we are Christ’s body.

Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

SENDING BLESSING

God who names you,
 Christ who claims you,
 and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
 † bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

“Beautiful Savior” ELW 838

SCHONSTER HERR JESU

1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
 Truly I’d love thee, truly I’d serve thee,
 light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
 robed in flow’rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
 he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
 bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
 than all the angels in the sky.

4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Munster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904; Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude

“Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair”

15th century English tune DEO GRACIAS

Organ setting by Stephen Gabrielsen



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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; prayer assistant: Michael Lakeman; crucifer/acolyte: Michael Lakeman; lector: Marty Schwartz; live streaming camera: A. J. Pridgen; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: John Simon, Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Jay Jacob, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Gretchen Dodge, Patrick & Rebecca Huang; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Chris Stevenson, Nick Wartner, Betsy Wenzel; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Karen Feezor, Carol Goodall; musicians: St. Mark's Choir, Jack Richardson, Amy Woodall, Nick Matherly, cantors; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Needed; crucifer/acolyte: Needed; lector: Maddie Thompson; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: Team A; greeters: Jay Jacob, Susan Lakeman; communion assistants: Lisa Barnette, Cliff Edahl, Rebecca Huang, Karen & Kevin Feezor; communion helper: Kay Finlon; tabulators: Doug Milheim, Janice Miller



From the pastor -

"God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1 Corinthians 1:9)

The season of Epiphany is four to nine weeks (depending on the date of Easter), lasting from the Feast of Epiphany (January 6) through the day before Ash Wednesday (this year, February 14). The season of Epiphany as a whole focuses upon the humanity and the divinity of Jesus Christ. At Epiphany, Jesus' birth is announced through the Magi to the nations, and the season continues to witness to the beginning of Jesus' ministry, his baptism, the calling of his disciples, and his proclamation of the good news. The focus of this season is ever outward toward the world and all nations, hinting at the scope of our proclamation and work as modern-day Christians. On the final Sunday of this season, The Transfiguration (February 11), we see the fullness of Christ's divinity revealed in his humanity, again hinting at the gift of his Spirit which dwells in us. Epiphany is a season in which we respond in faith and service to Jesus Christ, as his contemporary day disciples and messengers, always moving ever outward with faith active in love.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
Pastor Tim McKenzie
pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

Altar Flowers Today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Evan & Libby MacWhirter and John & Charlotte McCauley and their February birthdays by Stan & Sharon (MacWhirter) Cooper, Sally McCauley and Stan & Gigi (McCauley) Hankins.

Souper Bowl of Caring culminates today. Please donate non-perishable food items to tackle hunger in our community. Thank you!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!

This Tuesday, 2/13 at 6:00 pm, sponsored by Congregational Life. Please sign up! Copy the link to your browser or call the church office: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-47548322-shrove>.

The Piedmont Fiber Guild is offering the following workshop available to St. Mark's members:

Beginning Temari Workshop February 17, 2024 Time: 10am - 4pm. There will be a break for lunch, please bring your lunch and beverage. **Location:** St. Mark's Lutheran Church, PFG Library rm 213 **Cost:** \$75, members. This **includes materials** and location rental fee. Members of St. Marks can register as PFG Member, please indicate in note during registration. **Participants bring:** scissors, pen, paper **Instructor:** Elisa DeCastro **Class Size:** Max 12, minimum of 6. Sign up/Registration on the Piedmont Fiber Guild website, link here piedmontfiber-guild.org, by tomorrow, February 12.

Lenten Schedule

2/13 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall

2/14 Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes / Holy Communion 12:15 & 7 pm

Lenten Wednesday Suppers, 6 pm-6:45 in the Fellowship Hall, beginning 2/21.

Lenten Midweek Prayer, 7 pm (in-person and online), beginning 2/21.

The Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at Portofino's Italian Restaurant on February 20, 2024 (7:00 PM). Portofino has been in Charlotte since 1996 and now has 4 restaurants in the local area. Judy and I have enjoyed eating at Portofino's multiple times. Our most recent dishes were scampi with gluten-free ziti and gorgonzola chicken. Both are recommended. The accompanying salads were crisp and interesting. A baguette made the meal complete. Our plan is to continue sampling the menu. Menus can be found at portofinos-us.com. Portofino is located in Park Selwyn Terrace Shopping Center at 5126 Park Rd, Charlotte, NC 28209. This is the small-ish HarrisTeeter shopping mall close to Park Road/Selwyn Avenue intersection. Portofino promises a warm reception and a warm room in which to dine. Come and be part of an evening of convivial conversation and delicious viands! Contact Tom & Judy Tolbert for a reservation.

The St. Mark's Book Study Group will meet on Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. All are welcome to join. Our study this month will be *Surviving Savannah* by Patti Callahan. The wreckage from the steamship Pulaski was recovered 180 years after the ship's sinking. When Savannah history professor Everly Winthrop is asked to guest-curate a new museum collection focusing on the recovered artifacts, she can't resist the opportunity to try to solve some of the mysteries and myths surrounding the night of the ship's sinking. Winthrop's research leads her to extraordinary stories of people who were on board. This book is a moving and powerful exploration of what women will do to endure in the face of tragedy, the role fate plays for them, and the myriad ways they survive their surviving. For more information, please contact Kay Sehorn or Judy Tolbert.

Theology on Tap Thursday, February 22 at 7 pm at Lower Left Brewing Company located at 4528 Nations Crossing Road . Everyone is welcome!

Carolina Pro Musica Concert February 23 at 7 pm! Handel premiered three operas in London in 1724. His output of music was tremendous. Experience Handel's world in works little-known today! Tickets for this concert are half price for SMLC! Enter SMHalfOff at [HTTP://www.CarolinaProMusica.org/schedule](http://www.CarolinaProMusica.org/schedule)

REMINDER: To our able bodied members please park across Queens Rd in our church parking lot or on the side of the church along Edgehill Rd and come in side door saving the parking lot by the church for less able bodied members. Thank you.
2024 Offering Envelopes: Please pick up your 2024 envelopes in the Gathering Place. If you need envelopes, please fill out the on the table.

Thinking of joining St. Mark's? Please see Pastor Tim to set up a time to talk. All people are welcome at St. Mark's!

The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays. You are invited to join the Faith Forum for lively discussions led by Larry Dagenhart, Jr. during the month of February. The class meets at 9:30 in the Large Conference room. New members are always welcome.

Online worship is streamed live every Sunday at 10:30 am on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/>).

Ushers for Sunday Worship The ministry of ushering is a crucial part of worship because it is one of the most visible ministries in the Church. Please volunteer by contacting the church office or John Simon.

St. Mark's email list If you are not receiving emails from St. Mark's, we may not have your correct email address. Please contact the church to let us know. We send at least 2 emails every week.

Family Ministry

Nursery: A fun-filled nursery, staffed by volunteers, is located downstairs. An usher is available to show you the way. Our safety protocols offer peace of mind so you can worship without worry.

Confirmation Class meets every Sunday at 9:30.

Stewardship 2024

Sharing our gifts is important to St. Mark's ongoing mission. A pledge is a prayerful commitment to giving in response to God's grace. A pledge may be offered at any time, but pledges help a congregation establish a responsible budget for the coming year. Please consider making a financial pledge to St. Mark's. Brochures are available in the Gathering Place. Thank you for your faithful gifts to St. Mark's ministries. An online pledge option is also available from our website, or you may use the QR code.

You may use the QR code at left (hover your phone camera to connect) for immediate access to St. Mark's website donation page.



Pledges and donations for Altar Flowers may also be made using this code.

2024 Altar Flower Sponsorship If you would like to sponsor live flowers for our Sunday worship service, please sign up on the calendar by the mailbox room or contact the church office.

Social Ministry

We continue to remember the hungry and homeless through our social ministries.

LOAVES & FISHES (new name "Nourish Up") The baker's rack is a permanent collection location for **NON-BREAKABLE NON-PERISHABLE** food. And remember, all families need condiments, salt & pepper and sugar, along with basic food.

Soup Kitchen St. Mark's Soup Kitchen is serving lunch in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday for our neighbors. If you would like to serve, please contact us. You may also support the Soup Kitchen through financial donations sent to the church, or through St. Mark's online giving portal. Help us share God's love!


Announcements

AA meets in the Fellowship Hall: Monday nights "Third Tradition", 7 p.m.; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 p.m.; and Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 p.m.; in Room 210: Saturday morning 10:30 a.m. "SLAA".

**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

February 14, 2024
Imposition of Ashes
Holy Communion
12:15 pm & 7 pm
(7 pm also live on Facebook)

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
February 13 at 6 pm
Sign up!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

This Tuesday
2.13.24 at 6 pm

Copy the link to your
browser,
or call the church
office to sign up:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-47548322-shrove>



Music Notes

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness" ELW 318, is the last hymn in the Epiphany section of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Hymns on this Last Sunday after Epiphany/Transfiguration of Our Lord reflect the end of one season, and anticipate the beginning of our Lenten journey this next week. This 11th century Latin hymn was translated into English by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and comes to us from a time when the alleluias were "buried", and no longer sung or spoken in worship during the season of Lent. The third stanza reminds us "Alleluias cannot always be our song while here below". The tune **PRAISE, MY SOUL** was written by John Goss in 1868 for the hymn "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven" (ELW 865).

"Shine, Jesus, Shine" ELW 671 This hymn was first included in our denominational songbook *With One Voice* (1995), and then included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006). Graham Kendrick (b. 1950) wrote both the hymn text and its music. Kendrick is the son of a Baptist minister, and was born and raised in England. He studied to be a teacher, but in 1972 he became a contemporary folk-rock singer and songwriter who got his training in evangelistic coffee bars. He is part of the leadership team at his church Ichthus Christian Fellowship in London. As is typical of this style of a popular solo song, the refrain has a higher tessitura (vocal range) than the two stanzas.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

February 14, Cyril, monk (826–869) and Methodius, bishop (815–885), missionaries to the Slavs

Cyril and Methodius were brothers from a noble family in Thessalonika in northeastern Greece. They were Byzantine theologians and missionaries to the Slavic people. Since Slavonic had no written form at the time, the brothers established a written language based upon the Greek alphabet. The Cyrillic alphabet is named after them. They translated the New Testament, the Psalms and parts of the Old Testament into the Slavic language. They also translated the liturgy using the Cyrillic alphabet. The success of their missionary work was a result of their employing the local language for translation and teaching rather than Latin or Greek, though this brought them into repeated conflict with Rome. The Czechs, Serbs, Croats, Slovaks, and Bulgars regard these brothers as the founders of Slavic literature. The brothers' work in preaching and worshiping in the language of the people are honored by Christians in both East and West.

Adapted from *Sundays and Seasons*

St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, David Kutscher, Oakley Coburn, Arlene Fielding, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Shirley Larson, Ingrid Keiris, Martha Stackel, Tina Wiland, Ben Watson, Louisa Coburn, Mindy Curley, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Sarah Lindberg, Marilyn Denison, Eileen Dunlap, Christopher Shirley, Tanner Grant, Michael Frye, Ken Foust, Gene Ellington, Laura Elliot, Norma Alexander, and Drew Goodson.

Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests (pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)

Readings for 2/18/2024

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10

*Your paths, O Lord, are steadfast
love and faithfulness. (Ps. 25:10)*

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

Birthdays

2/12 Elizabeth Williams

2/13 Jake Weckerle

2/14 Rebecca Huang

2/16 Gene Daniels

2/17 Claire Dixon

2/17 Daniel Adden



Do you feel like you are in crisis? In Isaiah it is written, "Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God." Stephen ministers are here to show the Lord's love and comfort for you in times of trial. If you would like to confidentially speak to a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Tim (pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)

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Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor

pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Lester Ackerman,

Director of Music Ministry, Organist

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Sue Wadgymer, Parish Administrator

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Jessie Craig, Finance Administrator

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