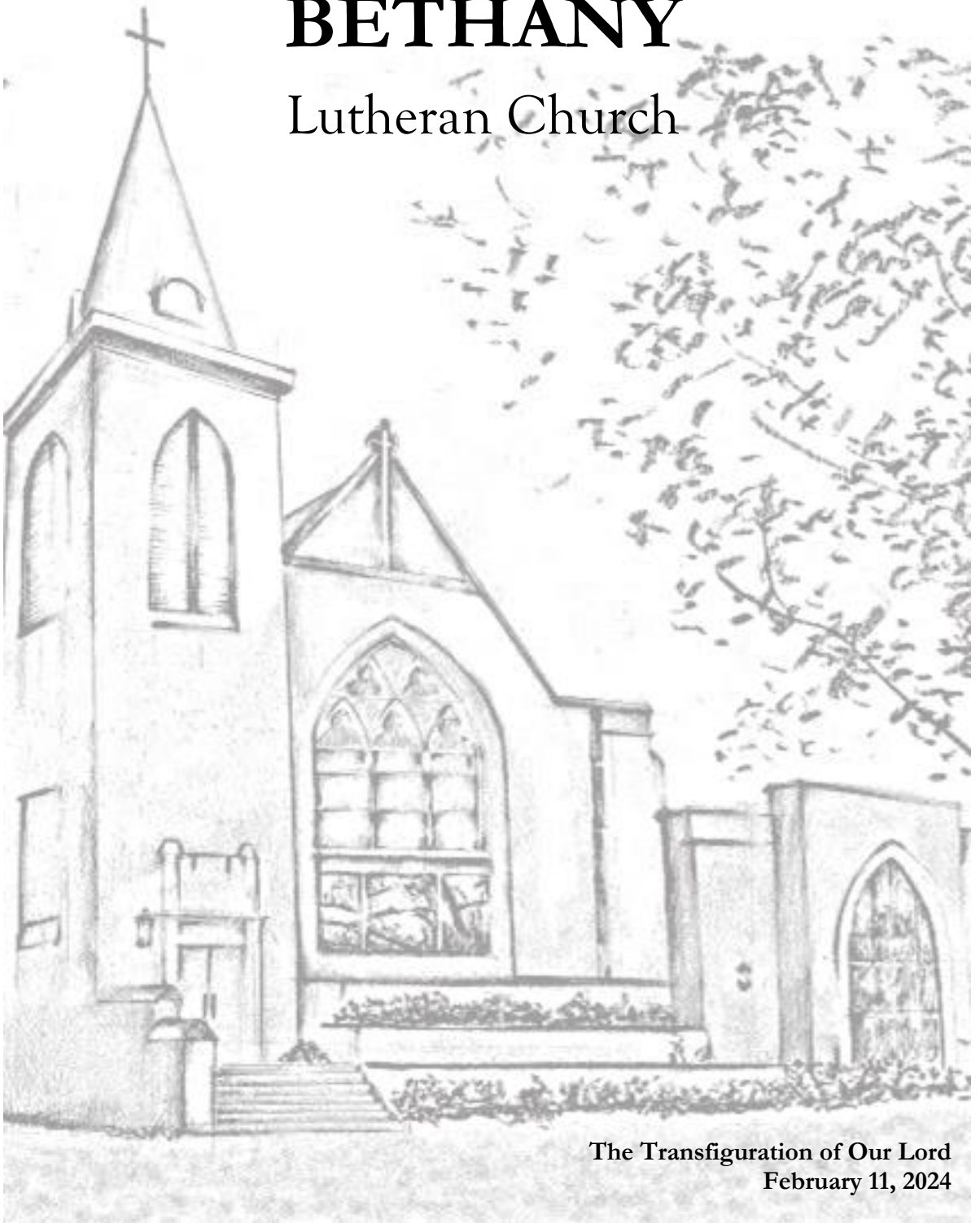


BETHANY

Lutheran Church



The Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 11, 2024

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at www.bethanybatavia.org. Welcome!

Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

Children's Resources

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery

While not staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Altar Rose

Today's rose on the altar is in celebration for the birth of Bowen William Jones, great grandson of Jackie Page.

Coffee Hour

Thank you to the Thomassen and Schuster Families for hosting Coffee Hour after service today in Fellowship Hall. Please join us.

Holy Communion

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All are invited to the table where Christ himself is host.

As We Gather:

The only time we ever really use the word "transfiguration" is on this day in the Church. It's not a common word in our vocabulary, except when it comes to the story of Jesus. So what does it actually mean? The preposition "trans" describes a movement "beyond" or "across" or "on the other side of" something. In this sense, on the mountain that day with Peter and James and John, Jesus was moved beyond the human form in which the disciples typically experienced him. His transfigured form as well as the words announced from God above reveal Jesus' identity as the divine Son of God. The Transfiguration of Jesus is a declaration from God for us, too. In the Christian life, we, too, are always moving beyond passive faith and into action, beyond hopelessness and into trust, beyond fear and into freedom, beyond death and into life. And this week, with Jesus leading our way, we begin the move beyond Epiphany and into Lent.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Lutheran Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in bold.

This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red) – referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE: There is a Balm in Gilead
Beautiful Savior

Arr. Kidwell
Nancy Jane Blair
Grace Notes Bell Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confessing our sins and receiving forgiveness prepares us to receive Christ in the proclamation of his Word and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
You have made your presence known, and shown us all we need to see.
Yet, even so, we have not loved you with our whole heart;
And we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.
 As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

We begin our worship as a gathered community by praising God in song.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Beautiful Savior

ELW #838



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

The Gloria, or some other song of praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo- ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on- ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho- ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

The prayer of the day, or collect, is appointed for each Sunday and "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

We sit.

+ WORD +

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1–12

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.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another. The biblical book of Psalms is the hymnal of ancient Israel, many written for use in temple worship.

PSALM 50:1-6

Robert A. Hobby

ANTIPHON: Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God Shines forth in glory!

- L The Lord, the God of | gods, has spoken;*
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun | to its setting.
- C **Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,***
God reveals him- | self in glory.
- L Our God will come and will | not keep silence;*
before him there is a consuming flame,
and round about him a | raging storm.
- C **He calls the heavens and the earth | from above***
to witness the judgment | of his people.
- L "Gather before me my | loyal followers,*
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice."
- C **Let the heavens declare the rightness | of his cause;***
for God him- | self is judge.

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

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.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

The Gospel acclamation, or sometimes sequence hymn, moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word – the reading of the Holy Gospel. Gospel means “good news” – specifically the “good news of Jesus.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

This reading is taken from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:2–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

Six 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.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the day's scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

SERMON

Pastor Jeffrey G Mikyska
Mark 9:2–9



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.

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.

NICENE CREED

L Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C **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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who 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.**

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the Universal Church, all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church – the Body of Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- L As we celebrate Christ embodied in both human and divine form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.
- L We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.
- L We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.
- L We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.
- L We pray for any who are sick and suffering. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.
- L We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.
- L Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

P According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

+ MEAL +

We share Christ's peace with each other as a sign of charity and unity in preparation for the Holy Communion.

PEACE OF CHRIST

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

We sit.

Having confessed our sins, received forgiveness, listened to the Word of God and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offering we gratefully offer back to God some of what he has given us, symbolically in the gifts of bread and wine prepared at the table and the money we give.

OFFERING MUSIC: Christ Upon the Mountain Peak

Paul Bouman

Christ upon the mountain peak stands alone in glory blazing.

Let us, if we dare to speak, with the saints and angels praise him – Alleluia!

Trembling at his feet we saw Moses and Elijah speaking.

All the prophets and the Law shout through them their joyful greeting – Alleluia!

Swift the cloud of glory came, God, proclaiming in its thunder

Jesus as his Son by name! Nations, cry aloud in wonder! – Alleluia!

This is God's beloved Son. Law and prophets fade before him,

First and last and only One. Let creation now adore him! – Alleluia!

We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning “Lift up your hearts.”

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and make your voice known to us. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the “Words of Institution” that Jesus said at the Last Supper.

P Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Beloved, sent to reveal your glory to the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his transfiguration,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has taught us:

**C 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.

P These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

C Thanks be to God.

P All are welcome to God's Banquet Feast! Come, for all is now ready!

We sit.

Echoing both John 1:29 and Revelation 5:6, this song addresses the risen Christ giving himself away at this table as the true Lamb.

LAMB OF GOD



☐ 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.

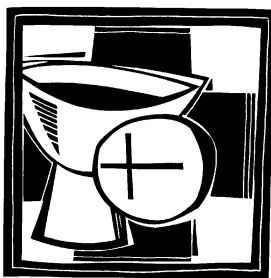
COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to his holy banquet. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink. Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.

MUSIC FOR HOLY COMMUNION

VOLUNTARY: Eye Has Not Seen

Marty Haugen
Arr. Jeffrey Honore
Grace Notes Bell Choir





1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, In the
 2. Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, From 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
 shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; By the blood I may
 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
 en - ter your bright-ness; Search me, try me, con - sume all my
 glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your



bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.
 dark - ness: Shine on me; Shine on me.
 sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.

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!

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 Fetteke
 © 1988, 1989, Make Way Music, admin. Music Services



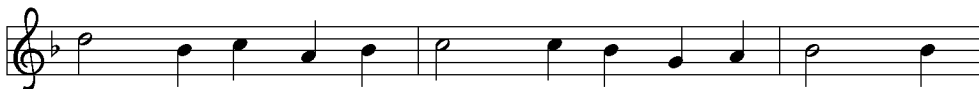
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
 2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
 death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
 change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
 glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
 in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
 glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
 and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart,
and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ.
May this meal transfigure us to be your body serving the world today;
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sending reminds us that every Sunday worship gathering is a cycle, existing for a time and then dispersing. We arrive at the “sending” after traveling from the rite of gathering to the word and meal. We heard and proclaimed the Word; we were nourished at the Meal; and now we complete the cycle. We have encountered the living Christ in this place and are empowered for ministry in the world.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

P Almighty God: Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forevermore.

C **Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SENDING HYMN: Alleluia! Song of Gladness

ELW #318

Antiphon

Robert Buckley Farlee

*Choir: Alleluia, alleluia. Enclose and seal up the word,
Alleluia alleluia. Let it remain in the secret of your heart,
Alleluia alleluia. Until the appointed time.
You shall say it with great joy when that day comes. Alleluia.*

Congregation:



- 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.

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: Prelude and Fugue in E Minor

Bach



Farewell to Alleluia

At Bethany, we keep the ancient practice of fasting from singing or speaking *alleluia* during Lent. It is helpful to consider the *whys*, *whens*, and *hows* of this practice.

Why bury the Alleluia?

Based on the Hebrew word, *hallelu yah*, meaning “praise the Lord,” *alleluia* has been a word of great praise to God in the life of the church. Because of the penitential character of the Lenten season in the Western church, singing or saying the word *alleluia* has historically been suspended during Lent’s forty days. The omission of alleluia during Lent goes back at least to the fifth century in the Western church. The custom of actually bidding it farewell, however, developed in the Middle Ages. The hymn “Alleluia, song of gladness” (ELW 318) contains a translation of an eleventh-century Latin text that compares an alleluia-less Lent to the exile of the Israelites in Babylon. The text then anticipates the joy of Easter when glad alleluias will return in all their heavenly splendor.

Along with a sung farewell to alleluia, Bethany has embraced the practice of physically burying (or putting away) the alleluia. This year a banner of alleluias is displayed and then “buried”.

When do we bury the alleluia?

At Bethany the Alleluia is bid farewell on the Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday. This is the last Sunday when alleluia will be used until Easter Sunday. After the singing of the hymn, “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”, the banner will be folded and packed away and remain under the altar for the Lenten season as a reminder of its absence from our liturgy.

When and how do we resurrect the alleluia?

On Easter Sunday, the alleluia will be carried in a festive procession during the Processional Hymn replete with festive alleluias!

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister
Doug Boehm, Worship Leader
Alan Spear, Organist
Kris Kaar, Reader
Carol Thomassen, Jackie Page, Altar Guild
Jacob Harmon, Michael Goro, Acolytes
Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Leonard Wray,
Ushers
Doug Boehm, Kris Kaar, Tara Shannon,
Communion Asst's
Festival Choir
Grace Notes Bell Choir
Marsha Schuster, Oboe

STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor
Mark Waldron, Director of Music
Alan Spear, Organist
Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant
Emma Hess, Youth Director
Ed McQuillan, Financial Secretary

YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President
Alan Spear, Vice-President
Marsha Schuster, Secretary
Steve Mickelson, Treasurer
Doug Boehm
Karol Clark
Brad Hirt

Dale Howard
Billy Hutchens
Rich Kreis
Pastor Jeff Mikyska
Kathy Richmond
Mia Rusev
Lane Stahl

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to council@bethanybatavia.org.

Bethany's Vision: We are a Grace-based, people-powered, refuge for all.

Code of Conduct: At Bethany, we believe everyone should live a faithful life in service with charity, kindness and integrity, and treat others with respect and understanding, act responsibly, and serve as an example of Christian faith in action.

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LET US PRAY...

We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Mary Bradtmueller,, Diane Garland, Shirley Grant, Anna Jackson, Mike & Deb Hruby, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, George & Shirley Striedl, Bev Waterfield, Sandi Wilcox

Please pray for those who are homebound and those in a care facility:

Mark Anderson	Silverado Memory Care, St Charles
Lois Elfstrom	Aurora, IL
Marie Holtz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Bill Keele	Heritage Woods
Pam Klingberg	Heritage Woods
Wanda Krentz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Joan Olson	Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad
Pat Sullivan	Bardwell Residence, Aurora
Jay & Carol Wierz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

Please pray for all those serving in the military, especially those who are connected to our congregation.

Owen Schuster
Steven Surdynski

Please pray for our family and friends:

Jim Martin

Mike Rissman

Lili

Lisa

Fr. Matt BeBlock

Doug

Mary Weinert

Richard Tabor

Carl C.

Student at Genoa-Kingston Middle School

Marcia McDugle

Molly & Mike Updyke

Jim Anderson

Robert & Vicki Johnson

Walt Wille

Marty

Bonnie & Jim Hines

Pat

Kristen Benakis

Pat Pydo

Todd Streidl

Marilyn

Tracy Clark

Mary Lawrence

Lee Peterson

Loda George Ricker

Calvin, Diane & Family

Katie Taylor

Jane Wirth

Michelle Hartzell

Rick Gaston

Brother-in-Law of Tom & Dee Schuman

Uncle of Tom & Dee Schuman

Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman

Friend of Kathy Richmond

Co-Worker's Son of Kathy Richmond

Friend of Jan Bristow

Sister-in-Law of Pam Klingberg

Brother of Liesa Ritter

Friend of Bethany Walking Group

Friend of Bob & Sue Novy

Daughter/Son-in-Law of George & Shirley Streidl

Friend of Bob Nelson

Brother-in-Law/Sister-in-Law of Val Schalk

Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler

Friend of Hutchens' Family

Parents of Suzanne Grashorn

Brother-in-Law of Suzanne Grashorn

Friend of Bob & Sue Novy

Friend of John & Laura Peterson/Marty Offutt-Gruber

Son of George & Shirley Streidl

Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman

Sister of Tara Shannon

Sister-in-Law of Carole Benson

Friend of Dottie White

Friend of Fred & Ann Holch

Friends of Kathy Richmond

Great Niece of Ken & Judy Henschler

Friend of Ken & Judy Henschler

Friend of Beth Richard

Friend of Ann Holch

Mary Hughs
Dottie
Lizzie Bork
Jeffrey Campbell
Kate and Family
Damon Schultz
Sue S.
Nicole
Maureen Scollon
Chris Sidler
Lisa
Heather
Gretchen VanKempema
Ryan Anderson
Lynne Morrow
Kenzie
Paul Mazen
Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher & family,
Phil
Kathy Dee's Family
Mary Jo Benstein's Family
Susan Sheley
Bonnie
Carole W.
Diane Ekstam Johnson
Tammy English
Jerry Martin
Teri Prokes
Tony Prokes
Kelli Robertson
Ed Stahl

Sister of Jackie Page
Friend of Paulette Smigo
Friend of Julie Howard
Nephew of Nan Phillips
Friend of John & Karol Clark
Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone
Friend of Bob & Sue Novy
Friend of Linda Sullivan
Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White
Friend of Luke & Diane Land
Friend of Beth Richard
Friend of Schuman Family
Daughter of Ann Holch
Son of Aaron Anderson
Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail
Friend of Katie Robertson

Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard
Lynn Dreymler's brother
Teri Figura
Teri Figura
Daughter of Louise Pruitt
Friend of Pastor Jeff
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam
Daughter of Shirley Streidl
Father of Nicki McVey
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy
Daughter of Diane Schalk
Father of Dan Stahl

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:

Judith Lee Hoag
Donna Almerico
Mary Dunne
Dolores Hoffman

Sister of Bob Nelson
Aunt of Amanda Balsan

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday, February 11

9am	Worship	Sanctuary
10am	Pick-Up for Youth Carry-Out Dinner Fundraiser	
10am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
10:30am	Sunday School	Main Building/2 nd Floor

Monday, February 12

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
9am	Counters	Conference Room
12pm	Hope Circle	Adult Lounge/Library
12:30pm	Staff Meeting	Conference Room
7pm	Marketing Team – Zoom Meeting	Fellowship Hall/Via Zoom

Tuesday, February 13

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
9am	Quilters/Prayer Shawl Ministry	Fellowship Hall
10am	Memorial – Judith Lee Hoag	Moss Funeral Home
5:30pm	Executive Team	Conference Room
6:30pm	Girls BSA Troop 606	Vlahn Room/Gym
7pm	Fox River Radio League	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 14

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
10am	Senior Advocacy Group	Fellowship Hall/Library
11am	Ash Wednesday Lenten Service	Sanctuary
5:30pm	Youth Bells	Sanctuary/Balcony
6pm	Confirmation	Youth Room/Chapel
7pm	Ash Wednesday Lenten Service	Sanctuary

Thursday, February 15

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
6pm	Bell Choir	Balcony
6:30pm	Boy Scout Troop 6	Gym/Vlahn Room
7pm	Festival Choir	Sanctuary
7:30pm	BSA – Order of the Arrow	Fellowship Hall

Friday, February 16

Scout Troop 606 Camp Out

8:30am	Bethany Walking Group	Ministry Center Gym
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Saturday, February 17

Scout Troop 606 Camp Out

7:30am	Men's Basketball	Ministry Center Gym
9am	Visitation/Memorial – Dolores Hoffman	Sanctuary
9am	Altar Guild	Fellowship Hall
10am	Al-Anon	Library
10am	Al-Ateen	Lower Level
11am	Memorial/Funeral Service	Sanctuary
	Dolores Hoffman	
12pm	Memorial/Luncheon – Dolores Hoffman	Fellowship Hall
8pm	AA	Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 18

Scout Troop 606 Camp Out

9am	Worship	Sanctuary
10am	Coffee Hour	Fellowship Hall
10:30am	Sunday School	Main Building/2 nd Floor