

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
March 2, 2025
10:00 AM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

Pastor Megan Floyd
Administrative Assistant.....Kalea Sanford
Music Director Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist Bruce Williams
Sound Technicians Cody Boyan & Raymond Herek
Church email faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

WIFI: Faith Lutheran; Password: LutheranFaith

WELCOME STATEMENT

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as God’s beloved child, “for in Christ Jesus... [we] are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26). No matter your age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, neurodivergent status, faith background, political leanings, or mental, intellectual or physical ability – you are welcomed here just as you are. In this church, we commit to pursue gender and racial equity in all that we do, and to support one another as chosen family, being parents and siblings for each other regardless of who we have as biological family (Mark 3:31-35). For we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide as we strive to serve our world.

For safety reasons, please do not allow your children to wander unsupervised past the coat racks or downstairs during the church service.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God’s glory in the word and in the supper and who are being “transformed into the same image” by God’s Spirit.

PRELUDE

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

arr Michael Burkhardt

VERSE OF THE DAY

Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

- Luke 9:35

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;**

**we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your loving kindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

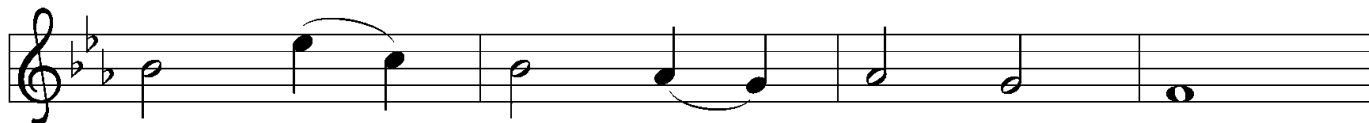
live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN- Beautiful Savior (ELW 838)



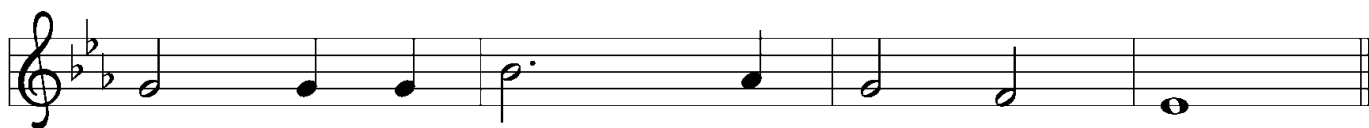
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



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!

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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 - Great is the Lord (WP 53)

Great is the Lord, he is ho - ly and just, by his
 pow-er we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is
 faith - ful and true, by his mer - cy he proves he is
 love. Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of glo - ry.
 Great is the Lord, and wor - thy of praise. Great is the Lord, now
 lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the
 Lord! Great is the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly will be seated.

FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 99

¹ The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

² **The LORD, great in Zion,
is high above all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;
God is the Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool;
God is the Holy One.

⁶ **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,**

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

⁸ **O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill;
for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

4:1 Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. 2 We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON



Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL.: Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. [

³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸ Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹ Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹ Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴² While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a} And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

The assembly will be seated.

SERMON

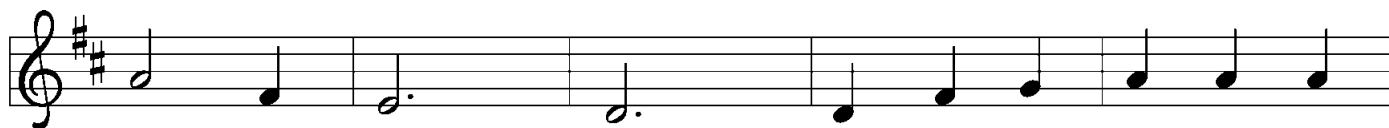
Pastor John Schleicher

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

CREED

Joining the saints from every time and place, let us confess our faith together with the words of the Apostle's 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

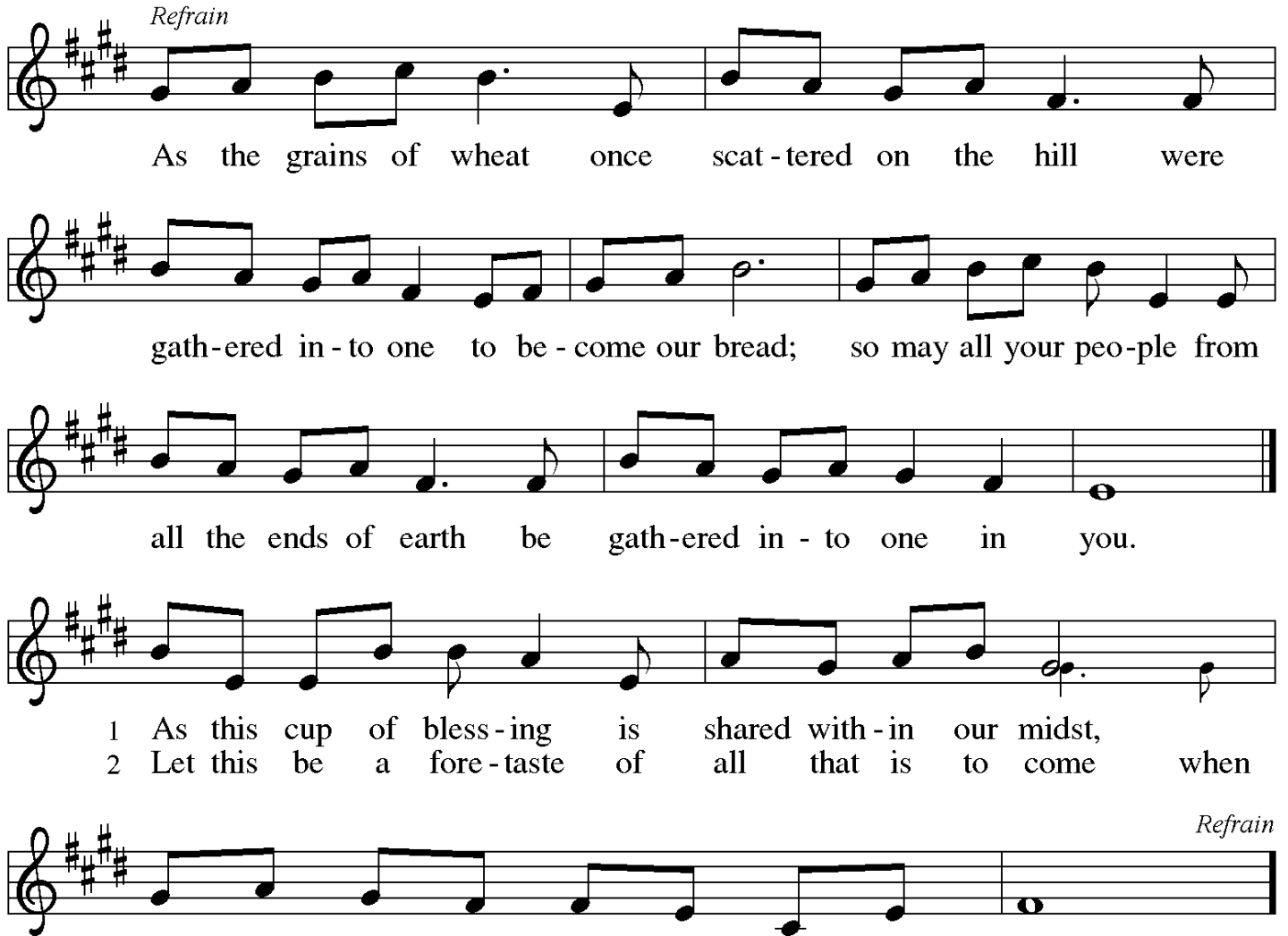
"We Will Glorify"

Jack Schrader

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE- As the Grains of Wheat (ELW 465)

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

LITURGICAL HAND WASHING

Pastor and assisting ministers sanitize and wash their hands

"I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord, singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds." – Psalm 26:6-7

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

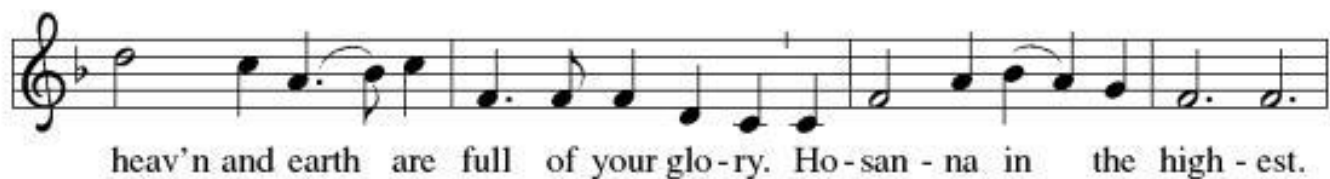
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kin[g]dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin[g]dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

All are invited to come to the table to receive what the Lord offers. If, however, you would prefer not to receive communion, you may come to the table for a blessing. Gluten free wafers are available upon request when you come to receive communion at the altar rail.

Our trays have wine (darker liquid) in the outer part of the tray, and grape juice (lighter liquid) in the center. Please choose whichever you prefer.

If you have any further questions, please ask an usher.

COMMUNION SONG – Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet (WP 144)

Refrain



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be -



side me, and noth-ing will I fear as long as you are near.



Please be near me to the end.



2 I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for-ev-er is



wan-der-ing. Je-sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and



I will love you to the end.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Beautiful Savior”

arr. Eric Daub

Please stand as you are able.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

SENDING SONG – Shine, Jesus Shine (ELW 671)

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 midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set - us free, by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Shine on me,
Shine on me,

shine on me:
shine on me:

Refrain

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“He is Exalted”

arr. Rolin Mains

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FLC SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 2

- Sunday School @9am in Sunday School/Youth Room
- Worship Service @ 10:00 am: **Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Monday, March 3

- Scouting America @7pm in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 4

- CAMTA Meeting @9am in Old Sanctuary
- Bible Study @12pm in Library – Hybrid
- Shrove Tuesday @5:30 in Fellowship Hall
- Girl Scouts Meeting @5:30pm in Sunday School/Youth Room
- Pantry Committee Meeting @6:30 in Library

Wednesday, March 5

- Quilters Meet @ 9:30 am
- **Ash Wednesday Service @7pm**

Thursday, March 6

- Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group Meeting @7pm
- Book Discussion @7pm in Library

Saturday, March 8

- Pinewood Derby Cub Scouts @10am in Sunday School/Youth Room
- Eurhre Tournament @6:30 in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 9

- Sunday School @9am in Sunday School/Youth Room
- Worship Service @10:00am: **First Sunday in Lent**
- Private Rental in Fellowship Hall @11am

FAITH VOLUNTEERS

March 2

Greeter(s): Chirs & Jean Lewis
Reader: Brenda Kopf
Lay Assistant: Ryan Thompson
Ushers: Ellen Holste & Todd Robinson
Altar Care: Heidi Bowers
Sunday School: Brenda Kopf/Alexa Warwick
Coffee Hour: The Boyans
Counters: Matt Schnizlein
Acolyte:

March 9

Greeter(s): Nick Hirschenberger
Reader: Heidi Nussdorfer
Lay Assistant: Brenda Kopf
Ushers: Brenda Kopf/John Backman
Altar Care: Heidi Bowers
Sunday School: Kalea Sanford
Coffee Hour: Rich Weingartner
Counters: Ramona Backman/Jamie Royalty
Acolyte:

Faith Lutheran Church Prayer List

We invite you to hold these people in your prayers each day this week.

We pray that your healing and life will be with all longing for sustainable housing, secure employment, access to medical care, and overall health and wellness, especially **Tom, Linda**, Samantha, Chad, Susan, Helen, Marla, Gene, Trudy, Harry, Lois, Mara, Helen, Marilyn, Todd, Eric, Allyson, Rex, Katy, Ledith, Grant, Rick, Stella and Joyce.

We pray for those who are grieving, including the family and friends of Tina, Michael Shoemaker's family, and Michelle's family.

We pray for all those in military service, especially those connected to our community: Lani, Jon, Landon, Hannah, Melody and Adam, Joe, Reuben, Lane, and Aiden.

We pray for the larger church, especially our synod prayer partner Messiah Lutheran Church in Constantine and Reverend Thomas Pederson.

****New additions to our prayers are listed in bold. Please contact the church office or Pastor Megan to be added to the prayer list.***

Prayer Partners

We are participating in this activity and would love for you to add your signature. The letter is located on the table under the bulletin board entitled "Prayer Partners."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHROVE TUESDAY

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner is **March 4 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**. The youth will be cooking and serving a delicious pancake dinner in the fellowship hall. Sausage, applesauce, beverages and other great food will be provided. A free will offering is appreciated and will help fund the youth's confirmation retreat. Bring your appetite!

BOOK DISCUSSION

Kim O'Brien will be hosting a book discussion on "Being Mortal, Medicine and What Matters in the End" by Atul Gawande during the season of Lent when we are reminded that we are dust, and to dust we will return. **We will begin the Thursday after Ash Wednesday, March 6 at 7PM, and will continue through Lent.** If you have questions or would like to join please e-mail Kim at kimobr79@gmail.com

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

If you are a Euchre player, mark **Saturday, March 8th** on your calendar for our next tournament. Do you need a refresher or haven't played before? Sign up at 6:30pm! The tournament begins at 7:30pm. A signup sheet is available in the narthex.

LUNCH BUNCH

The quilters will be hosting on **March 19th**. If you would like to host a Lunch Bunch please reach out to Tammy Heilman.