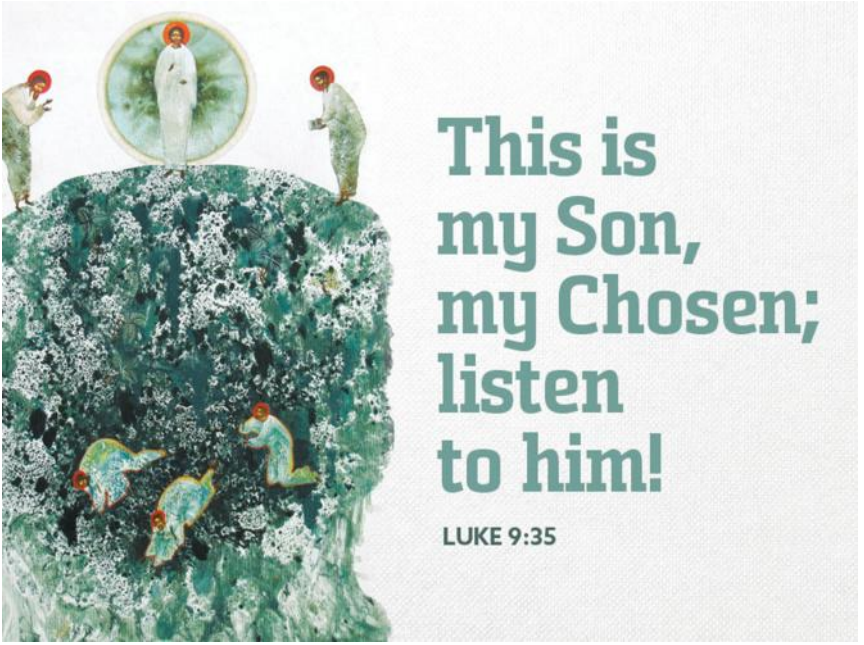


TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
March 2, 2025

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
34 E. Orange Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257-1993
Web Site: memluth.org
E-mail: office@memluth.org
717-532-4614

Welcoming all
Reaching out in love
Growing together in Christ
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name

Reverend Godfred Effisah
717-532-4614 (church office) or 571-572-0119 (cell)
pastor@memluth.org
Office hours: Monday through Thursday: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Children are an active part of Memorial's community of faith! We welcome you to worship each week! Children's bulletins and Quiet Bags (lots of exciting things to do!) are available at the doors coming from the parking lot. Please take one of each as they may help your children bring smiles into our time of worship!

Welcome to Memorial Lutheran Church. As you prepare for Worship, please silence your cell phone, complete the connection card and place it in the offering plate.

INTRODUCTION
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.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE **Nancy Fogelsanger**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please kneel or stand as you are able.

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

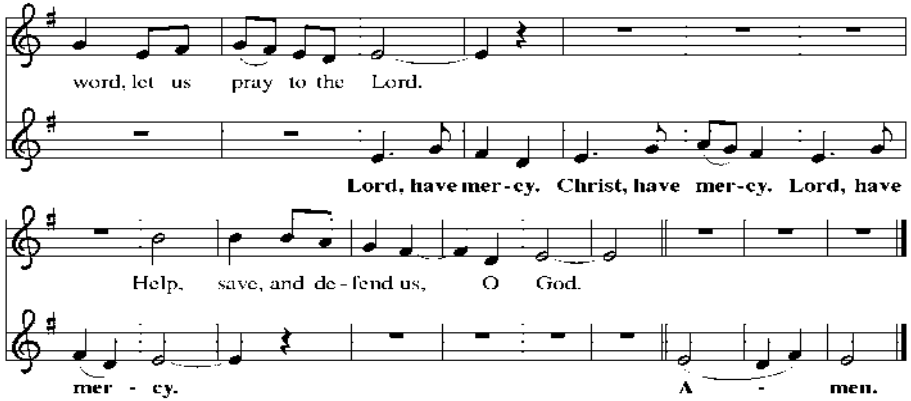
God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN *"Beautiful Savior"* **ELW 838**

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

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

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.

Please be seated.

WORD

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 Mo-
ses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation
returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. 32 Afterward all the Israel-
ites 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 Mo-
ses, 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.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 99 READ RESPONSIVELY

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia. This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him! Alleluia. *(Luke 9:35)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 9th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL **Luke 9:28-36**
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.

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.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Shine, Jesus, Shine"* **ELW 671**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

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.

Christ our Savior, as we seek your face in prayer throughout this year, we implore you to teach us to pray as you once taught your disciples. May your Holy Spirit help us recognize prayer's importance in our Christian life. May your grace transform us through prayer into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, give us more of your compassion for the plight of migrants fleeing their homelands in search of a better life. Soften our hearts to their situation and help us follow your lead in seeking justice and mercy on their behalf. We pray for an end to the wars, poverty, and human rights abuse that drive desperate people to become refugees. In caring for them, may we seek a world where no one is forced to leave their home and where all can live in freedom, dignity, and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray for those close to our communities and in our hearts (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people (*especially John Wesley and Charles Wesley, renewers of the church*). We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace, **hear 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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY DUET *"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"* **Norma Bricker**
Brenda Mason

The Ushers will collect the offering.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" **ELW 884**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

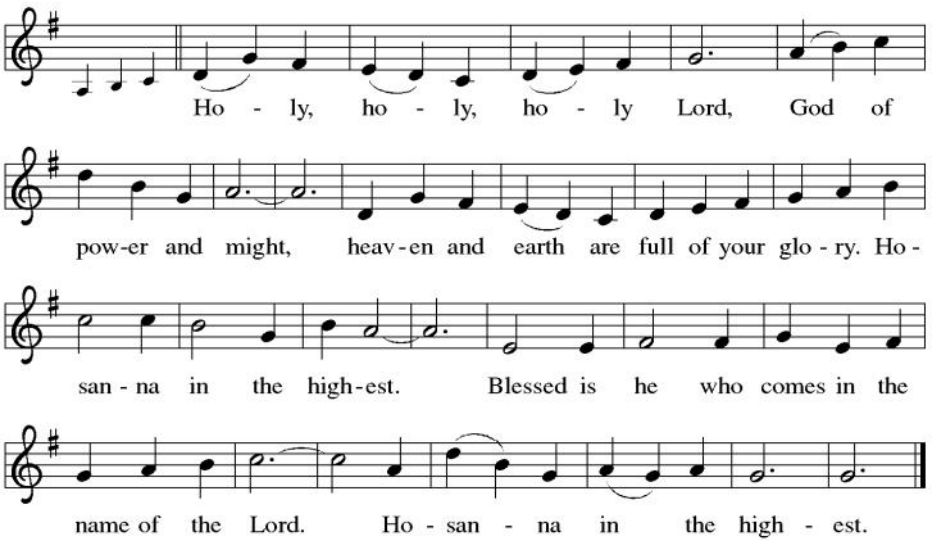
MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER
Let us pray together.
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.

THE 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 - TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere, to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God through Christ our Lord. For he revealed his glory in the presence of chosen witnesses and filled with the most extraordinary splendor that bodily form which he shares with all humanity, that the scandal of the Cross might be removed from the hearts of his disciples and that he might show how in the body of the whole Church is to be fulfilled what so wonderfully shone forth first in its Head. And so, with the Powers of heaven, we worship you constantly on earth, and before your majesty, without end, we proclaim:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love, you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death, we might be saved. By his resurrection, he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

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.

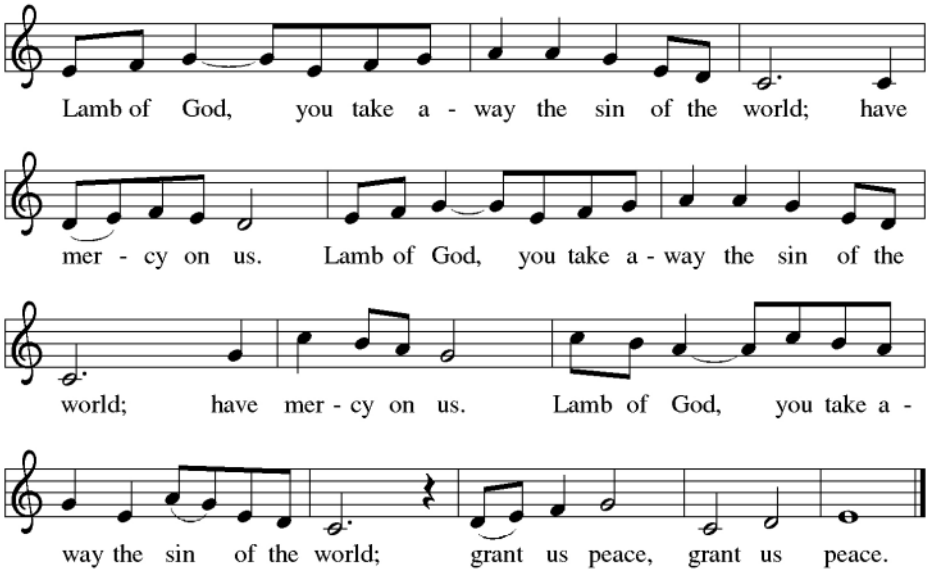
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. We ask all this through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

LAMB OF GOD **page 112**



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

Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION
All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward by the center aisle at the usher's direction. If you choose to have wine for communion, take an empty cup from the usher. If you prefer grape juice, receive a pre-filled cup at the altar. If you or a child has never received the sacrament, fold hands to receive a blessing instead. After receiving communion or a blessing, you may choose to remain at the altar for extra time in prayer. When you return to your pew do so by the side aisles. Please deposit the empty cup in the basket.

Please stand as you are able.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Let us pray together.
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.

SENDING

BURIAL OF THE ALLELUIA

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

SENDING HYMN *"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"* **ELW 318**

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

POSTLUDE **Nancy Fogelsanger**

John Wesley, died 1791; Charles Wesley, died 1788; renewers of the church ~ Sunday, March 2, 2025
These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths, their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.

Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS004243. New Revised Standard Version Bible. Copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Jackie Bishop
Evelyn Fuller
Bernita Killian
Karen Larson
Doug & Pat Maun
Jeanne Naugle
Dorothy Railing
Trina Ruth
All Caregivers

Pastor
Pastor Godfred Effisah

Organist & Pianist
Nancy Fogelsanger

Senior Choir / Bell Choir Director
Kathy Kerr

Parish Coordinator
Amy Piper

Preschool Director
Shirley Perry