



ST PAUL PINE GROVE MILLS

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Whenever you see an asterisk (*), you are invited to stand as you are able.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

PRELUDE: "Fairest Lord Jesus"

(Lloyd Larson)

GATHERING

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name if the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. A: 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.

P: God, our rock and refuge,

A: 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.

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. **A: Amen.**

*GATHERING HYMN: "Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair"

(ELW 316)



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by
 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son, and



glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the
 car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the
 deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be
 this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful
 Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us



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

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

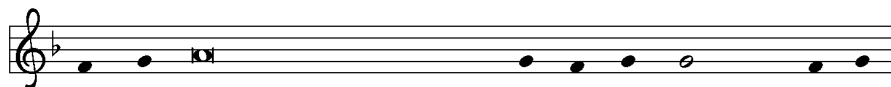
*GREETING

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

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
1 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.
Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 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.

Refrain

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

3 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.

Refrain

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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **A: 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. **A: Amen.**

ANTHEM: "Dazzling Presence on the Mountain"

(ACS 917)

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 KINGS 2:1-12

Elijah was the first and, in many ways, the greatest of Israel's prophets. God spoke to him while he was hiding from the rulers of Israel, who he expected to kill him. Among other tasks God assigned him, he was to return and make Elisha his successor. Elijah is one of the few figures in Scripture who do not seem to have died, but rather been taken up and hidden. Tradition had it that he would return to usher in the Day of the Lord (an extra place is always set for him at Passover meals).

¹Now 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.

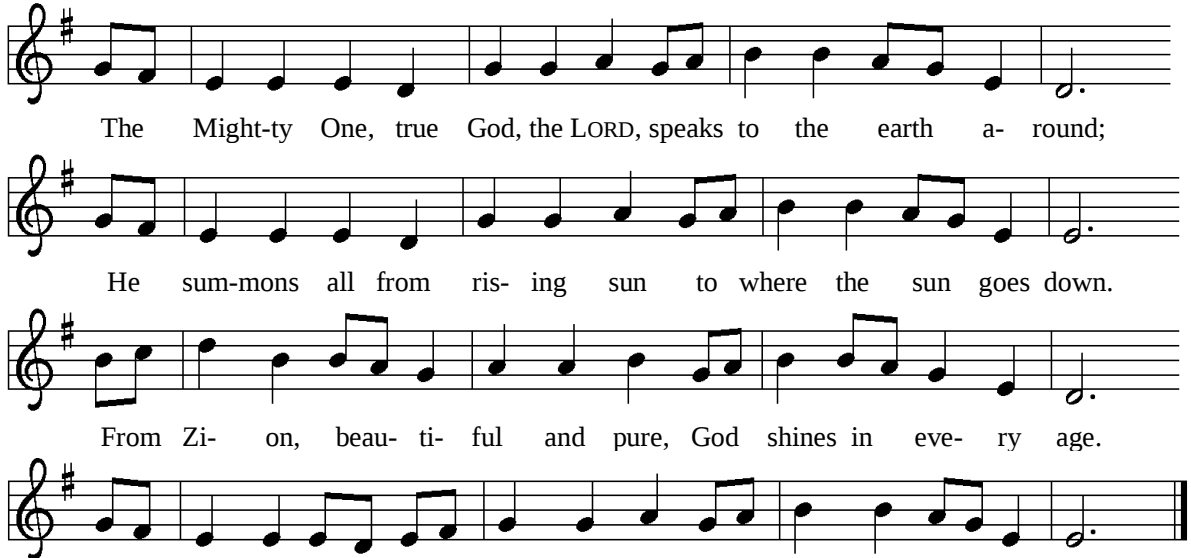
⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, 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.

R: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 50: 1-6

(Sung to the tune Kingsfold ELW 412)

This psalm, like the story of the Transfiguration, describes the pyrotechnics which accompany an appearance by God.



The musical notation is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and rhythmic, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "The Might-ty One, true God, the LORD, speaks to the earth a- round; He sum-mons all from ris- ing sun to where the sun goes down. From Zi- on, beau- ti- ful and pure, God shines in eve- ry age. Our God comes and won't sil- ent be—fire, temp- est 'round Him rage."

The Might-ty One, true God, the LORD, speaks to the earth a- round;
He sum-mons all from ris- ing sun to where the sun goes down.
From Zi- on, beau- ti- ful and pure, God shines in eve- ry age.
Our God comes and won't sil- ent be—fire, temp- est 'round Him rage.

He summons heav'n above and earth that He might judge with right:

"Come, gather those who cov'nant made with Me by sacrifice."

The heav'ns proclaim His righteousness; He is the judge alone.

And this is what the Lord does speak to those who are His own:

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-6

Throughout the season of Epiphany, we have been reading from Paul's letters to the Corinthians. This segment not only continues that, but mirrors the dazzling glory of God which surrounds Jesus in the Transfiguration.

³Even 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.

R: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

This is my Son, my Chosen,*
lis- ten to him!

*GOSPEL READING: MARK 9:2-9

This story immediately follows that of Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah, and Jesus' first prediction of his crucifixion and death. The "mountain" may be Mount Tabor, which dominates the landscape around Galilee. Since it is not named, however, its location is less important than its function: mountains have been places where humans and gods interact – including God's self-revelations to Moses and Elijah at Mount Sinai.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the first chapter. **A: 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 anymore, 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. **A: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY: "How Good, Lord, to Be Here!"

(ELW 315)



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



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

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

INVITATION TO BAPTISM

*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.**

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: 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.

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,

A: 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,

A: 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,

A: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for any who are sick and suffering (*especially*). Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

A: 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,

A: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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, we remember our siblings who have gone before us especially on this day Chuck McMullen and Martha Wills. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,

A: receive our prayer.

L: 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.

A: Amen.

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also, with you.**

MEAL

OFFERING

Offerings can be made online at stpaulpgm.org/give, mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.

MUSICAL OFFERING: "Something for Thee"

(Allen C. Whitworth)

*OFFERTORY: "Arise, Your Light Has Come!" (verse 4)

(ELW 314)

4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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*OFFERING PRAYER

L: 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. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

* DIALOGUE

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

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

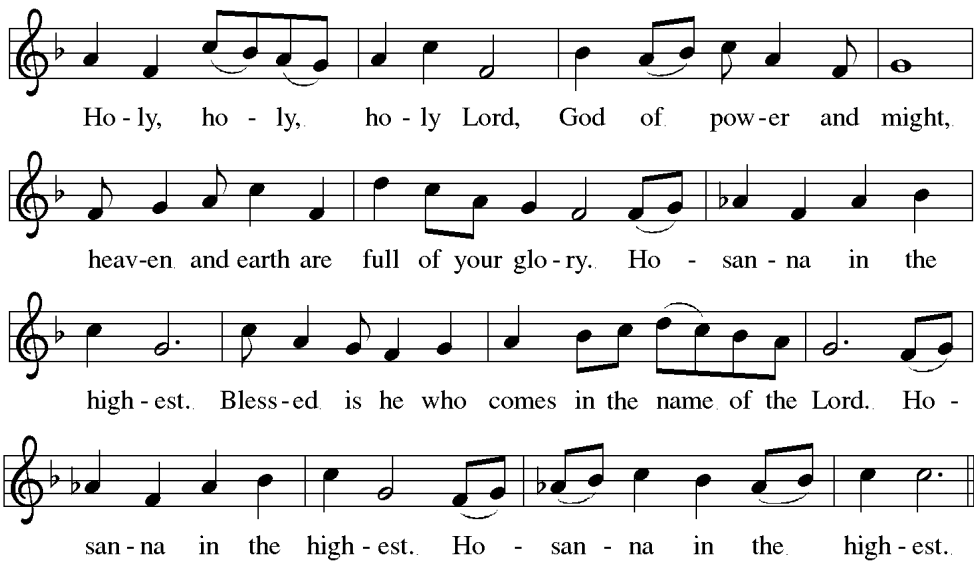
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



*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, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. 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::

*SANCTUS



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God,
 Creator of all and Source of life,
 at the birth of time
 your word brought light into the world.
 In the fullness of time,
 you sent your Word, born of Mary,
 to shine in our darkness
 and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was handed over,
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.
Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the mystery of our faith
A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection, we await his coming again
when all things will be restored in him.

A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,
that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.

A: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

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

A: Amen

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: 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.**

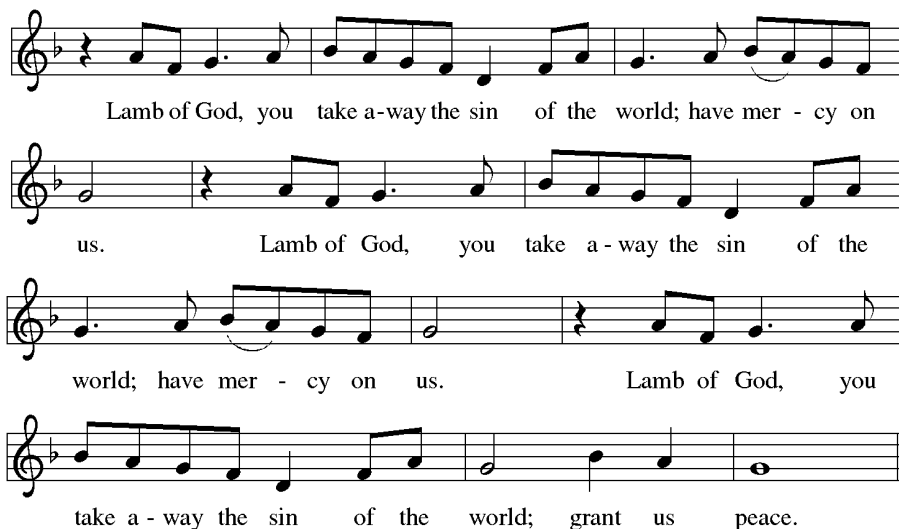
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**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 TO COMMUNION

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

*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.

COMMUNION

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN: "Christ, Be Our Light"

(ELW 715)



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strength and keep you, body, mind, and soul, now and unto eternal life. **A: Amen**

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE – *Thankful Hearts*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **A: Amen.**

SENDING

*SENDING OF COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may be seated.

*CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

BURYING ALLELUIA

*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN: "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

(ELW 318)



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



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



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

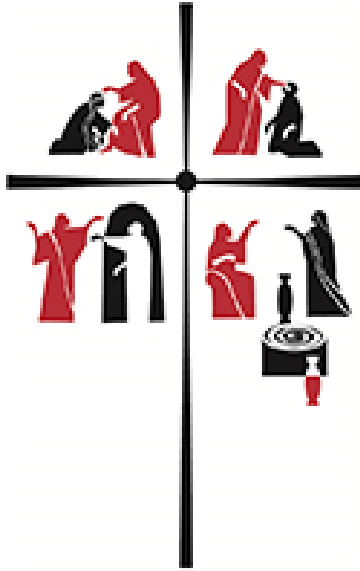
Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.. **A: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *"Recessional in C"*

(John S. Dixon)



DAILY READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Feb 11

2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6 (2)
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Mark 9:2-9

Monday, Feb 12

Exodus 19:7-25
Hebrews 2:1-4
Psalm 110:1-4

Tuesday, Feb 13

Job 19:23-27 1
Timothy 3:14-16
Psalm 110:1-4

Ash Wednesday, Feb 14

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17 (1)
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thursday, Feb 15

Daniel 9:1-14 1
John 1:3-10
Psalm 25:1-10

Friday Feb 16

Daniel 9:15-25a
2 Timothy 4:1-5
Psalm 25:1-10

Saturday, Feb 17

Psalm 32
Matthew 9:2-13
Psalm 25:1-10

Sunday, Feb 18

Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm 25:1-10 (10)
1 Peter 3:18-22
Mark 1:9-15

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR CHURCH!!

February 13: Shrove Tuesday

February 14: Ash Wednesday 7PM (Sts. Cyril & Methodius)

Wednesdays February 21-March 13: Holden Evening Prayer 6PM, meal following.

March 24: Palm and Passion Sunday

March 28: Commandment Thursday (Maundy Thursday) 7PM

March 29: God's Friday (Good Friday) 7PM

March 30: Easter Vigil (Easter Eve) 7PM

March 31: Resurrection of our Lord/Pascha (Easter)

Sunrise Service: Jo Hays Vista, 6:30AM?

Regular Service: 10AM



SERVING TODAY

Worship Leader.....Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister.....Sydney Bennington
Musician..... Jim Rearick
Sacristan..... Karen Magnuson
Reader.....Morgen Hummel

ABOUT ST. PAUL

PURPOSE

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

MISSION

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity,
and serve community.

CORE VALUES

Faith ♡ Compassion ♡ Generosity ♡ Community

OUR BIBLE VERSES

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'– Acts 9:3,15

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock people, where we gather for worship this morning. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

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