

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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Mission Statement – Loving God, Loving People

*Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Last Sunday after Epiphany*

February 15, 2026

**THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –10:00AM**

**\*Congregation Standing**

*Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.*

**WELCOME**

Announcements

Prelude

**\* Call to Worship**

P: Let us go to the mountain with Jesus,

**C: To the mountain where we see the Light, the Light of the World.**

P: Let us go to the mountain with Moses and Elijah,

**C: Where we witness the story, God's story, illuminated for us.**

P: Let us go to the mountain with God

**C: Where we hear confirmed, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!"**

***All: We come to witness, experience and listen. Amen***

**\* Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\dagger$  one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: you call us to life in community,  
but we have served our own interests  
at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,  
but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,  
that we may do justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:

Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in  $\dagger$  Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**C: Amen.**

## \* Gathering Hymn 631

## “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

\* Greeting

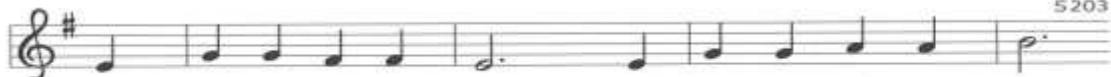
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

## \* Kyrie

(Setting 10 – page 203)

5203



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
 Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
 Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## \* Glory Be To God

(Setting 10 – page 204)

5204a



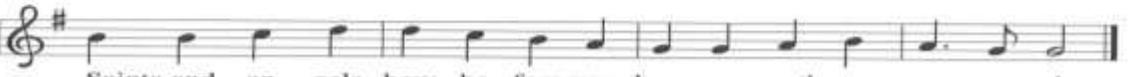
1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all;



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

\* Prayer of the Day

**O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Lesson: *Exodus 24:12-18*

<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalm 99*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is king; let the <sup>1</sup> people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let <sup>1</sup> the earth shake.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD, <sup>1</sup> great in Zion,  
is high a- <sup>1</sup> bove all peoples.**

<sup>3</sup> Let them confess God's name, which is <sup>1</sup> great and awesome;  
God is the <sup>1</sup> Holy One.

<sup>4</sup> **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- <sup>1</sup> tablished equity;  
you have executed justice and righteous- <sup>1</sup> ness in Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup> Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- <sup>1</sup> fore God's  
footstool; God is the <sup>1</sup> Holy One.

<sup>6</sup> **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those  
who call upon your <sup>1</sup> name, O LORD,  
they called upon you, and you <sup>1</sup> answered them,**

<sup>7</sup> you spoke to them out of the pil- <sup>1</sup> lar of cloud;  
they kept your testimonies and the decree <sup>1</sup> that you gave them.

<sup>8</sup> **O LORD our God, you answered <sup>1</sup> them indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for  
their <sup>1</sup> evil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup> Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's <sup>1</sup> holy hill;  
for the LORD our God is the <sup>1</sup> Holy One.

Second Lesson: *2 Peter 1:16-21*

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

\* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 10 – Page 205)

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 17:1-9*

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Rev. Daniel Swanson

**Hymn 834**

**“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

\* The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

The Prayer of the Church

\* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord  
Anthem

Organ Voluntary

\* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

\* The Offertory

**Hymn 692**

**“We Are an Offering”**

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
We are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.  
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,  
We give to you, we give to you.**

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
We are an offering, we are an offering.**

*Text & Music: Dwight Liles, b 1957*

\* Offertory Prayer

L: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

\* The 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 join their unending hymn:

\* (Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 10, page 207)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

\* The Words of Institution

\* The Lord's Prayer

**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: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

**C: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

(Setting 10, Page 208)

5208

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.  
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.  
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## Distribution of the Sacrament

### \* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

### \* The Prayer after Communion

L: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

### \* Blessing

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise  $\pm$  bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### \* Sending Hymn 314

**“Arise, Your Light Has Come”**

### \* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### \* Postlude

*In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.*

### **Lectors for our Services**

This Sunday, February 15 – Jack Murray

This Wednesday, February 18 – Debbie Fornwalt

Next Sunday, February 22 – Anne DeVaughn

Next Wednesday, February 25 – Jeff Smith

**Ushers** – Mark Lathrop, Jeff Smith

**Organist** – Rae Ann Smith

**A/V** – Kathy, Dave, Steve, Joyce

*The Altar Flowers have been given to the glory of God in honor of Jim & Barb Simmons 49<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on February 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*The Bulletins and Communion Bread & Wine have been given to the glory of God in honor of Amy's birthday by Jim & Shirley Smith.*

**We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary.** If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

**Hope that you have picked up your name tags** from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks

### **This week –**

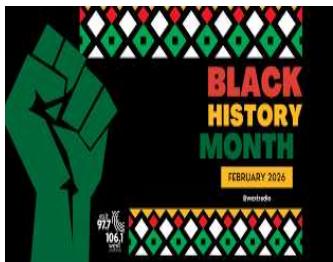
This Sunday – Worship 10:00am, followed by Blood Pressure Screening,  
Kameron Brooks trip to work in Jamaica

Wednesday – **Ash Wednesday Service – 12:00noon & 6:30pm**  
Reach Meal prep in fellowship hall in afternoon  
Chancel Choir – 7:30pm

Thursday – Kennel Club – 6:00pm

Friday – Reach Meal Prep.  
Diane's Music classes – 10:00am  
Ladybird singers – 11:00am

Saturday – Reach Meal prep and serving 3-5:00pm  
Next Sunday, Worship & Installation of Church Council – 10:00am,  
followed by Pizza & Listening Circle discussion – *“Discerning what God wants from us”*



*Let's Celebrate* - Antoinette Royster has assembled a display in the main narthex. **"A Century of Black History Commemorations"** In February 2026, the CLC Archives Committee is sponsoring a month-long exhibit in the Narthex to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Dr. Carter G. Woodson's establishment of "Negro History Week" and the 50th anniversary of President Gerald Ford's administration officially recognizing "Black History Month" nationally. During the United States' bicentennial year of February 1976, President Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans."

**Kameron Brooks willing to share his Jamaican journey with the congregation during our Sunday church school hour following worship this coming Sunday, February 15.** We will meet in the fellowship hall with refreshments to munch while you watch Kameron's photos from his trip. Please join us for this event.

**Church Council has designed our Lenten/Easter offerings for the LaVale Food Pantry.**

**Next Wednesday, February 18 (Ash Wednesday) we will have a 12:00noon and a 6:30 pm service.** During the five weeks of Lent we will also offer these two services. After our Noon service from February 25 – March 25 we will offer a Soup & Sandwich lunch.

**Please pick up your Lenten Devotional** on the round table in the main narthex – A Time of Grace and Peace by Alice Camille. Lent starts this Wednesday.

**Upcoming Listening Circle –Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> following worship** - The Mission and Generosity Committee will be holding a Listening Circle focused on discerning what God wants from us. We will be sharing pizza prior to the session as a way to spend some enjoyable time together. So join us on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> whether you plan on staying for the Listening Circle or not – **but, we hope** you will stay for the **Listening Circle**.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars** - Thrivent Members – Please remember to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Christ Lutheran. If you are a Thrivent member and have Choice Dollars that you have not designated for 2025, **please do so before March 31, 2026.** In April, their year begins and previous year's money will not be available. This money is an enormous help for our fundraising needs. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®"

**New Sponsorship list for 2026 is up on bulletin board in the narthex near the front door!** If you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers, Bulletin, Communion Bread and Wine or Monthly Newsletter, please sign up for your special Sunday(s).

**How we pay for RCI** - We pay for Reconciling In Christ from our Special Offering Account. If you wish to contribute to this fund, please donate any time during the coming year. **This WILL NOT be part of our budget.**

**As we collect unopened, unexpired, non-perishable items for the LaVale Food Pantry**, we'd like to specifically request several items that are needed year-round. *Those items are peanut butter, saltines, dry pasta (1 lb box), breakfast cereal (boxed) and canned kale or spinach. Sometimes the Pantry runs very low on these items, so donations would be appreciated! They can also use canned pasta (Chef Boyardee, SpaghettiOs) for their emergency food boxes.* Thanks for your generosity!

#### LAST WEEK'S REPORT – February 8, 2026

Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 37  
Zoom 10:00am = 17  
Wed, February 11 In Person 6:30pm = 10  
Zoom = 4

#### BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2026

Received = \$ 3,023.93  
Needed weekly = 4,265.56  
( 1,241.63 )

#### BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN 2026

Actual Income = \$13,685.64  
Actual Expenses = ( 17,838.49 )  
( \$ 4,301.92 )

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS  
**Mountain Maryland Lecture Series**

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A Post-Easter Gathering with Dr. Rolf A. Jacobson

**Wrestling with God:  
From Lament to Praise**



Dates:	Friday, April 17- Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19, 2026
Location:	St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 400 Arch Street, Cumberland, MD 21502
Cost:	\$50.00 (includes one session Friday evening and two sessions on Saturday)

**About the lecture:**

The biblical practice of lament has largely been either lost or ignored by the church. Perhaps the reason for this is that lament is seen either as negative or unfaithful. Engaging deeply in lament can help the church face the hard economic and divisive realities around us - and move us to trust and praise God.

Rolf Jacobson is Dean of the Faculty, Professor of Old Testament and the Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, and Ministry at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul. He is a familiar voice from both the Sermon Brainwave and Narrative Preaching Podcasts.

**Come as you are - bring your questions and your hope with you!**

To register, please email [stjohnscumberland@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnscumberland@gmail.com) for the registration link.

## PRAYER LIST FOR FEBRUARY 15, 2026

### PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Pam Mulligan  
 Barb Simmons  
 Elwood & Janet Glass  
 Mitzie & Jerry Robinette  
 Patty Wilson  
 Bill & MarySue Crawford  
 Jack Zealand  
 Laura Murray  
 Beverly Lang  
 Anna Bruck  
 Jane Miller  
 Ed Havens  
 Gail Dawson  
 Clem Dawson  
 Dave & Lisa Ahern  
 Kim Shoemaker  
 Charlotte Luy  
 Fay Crawford  
 David LaBuda  
 Rosey & Becky McIntyre  
 Jonathan and Danielle Ahern  
 Tammy Faulkner  
 Pam & Dave Judy  
 David Tibbets  
 Joyce DeMonbrun  
 Kathy Powell  
 Sharon McKenzie  
 Mary Lou Rowles

### PRAYER RECIPIENT

	<i>Requested by</i>
Brad & Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom	Gail Dawson
Barbara Williams	Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill	Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker	Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters	Dianne Short
Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons, Amy, Jackie Fairall	Barb Simmons
Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose	Diane
Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford	Diane K
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith	Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn	Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson	Antoinette Royster
Susie Spiker, Joan Beal, Braden Durst	Shirley & Jim Smith
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets	Dave Tibbets
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak,	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Phil Fisher	Sherry T
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg	Patty Wilson and Rosey
Breanna Brown	Debbie Fornwalt
Kamryn Rice	Corinna Hilderbrand
Candy Heverly	Charlotte Luy
Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu	L. Marchini
Erin Morrissey	Terri McCagh
Luke Smith	Lydia Martin

*Please keep us updated*

- the family of Flora Annabelle Hilderbrand (mother of Bob Hilderbrand)
- the family of Margaret Humbertson
- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



*Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Last Sunday after Epiphany*

**February 15, 2026**