

Service of the Word for the Home and for ZOOM
Transfiguration of our Lord
February 14, 2021
10:00 a.m.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: In-person worship will resume at First English Sunday, February 21 in hybrid format (incorporating online and in-person leadership). More information will be sent out in a pastoral letter in next week's mailing.

Are You Online? Join Zoom Worship!

Please email Caitlyn in the office at officefelc@zoominternet.net to be added to the email list for a link to the service.

Not Online? Join Us Over the Phone!

+1 301 715 8592 US
Meeting ID: 956 305 5281
Password: 408299

WELCOME

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; 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.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I 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.

Amen.

HYMN (next page)

Arise, Your Light Has Come!



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
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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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

KYRIE

GLORY TO GOD

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE WORD

FIRST READING 2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 50:1-6 *read responsively*

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,**

God shines forth in glory.

³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above**

to witness the judgment of the people.

⁵"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause,**
for it is God who is judge.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We welcome the gospel:

Alleluia! This is my Son, my Chosen,* listen to him! Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 9:2-9

The Holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, the ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

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 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY *online*

HYMN

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



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

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of those in need.

For awareness of the promised Holy Spirit, who brings both rest and energy, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faith to look to the future with hope, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For places throughout the world and in our nation, overwhelmed by the pandemic, especially Mexico City and the state of California, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in our nation, for an end to the threat of violence, and for functional government, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Golden Tornado Foundation, for the Center for Community Resources, for the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, the Salvation Army, and all other resources in our community that assist people experiencing poverty, let us pray:
Lord, have mercy.

For the anxious, the weary, the lonely, and the bored; for those who find Valentine's Day difficult for any reason, for those who are grieving any loss, and for those who long for deeper connection with God and with others, let us pray:
Lord, have mercy.

For healing for all who are sick, whether from Covid-19 or from other maladies, especially those whom we name now aloud or in the silence of our hearts....(substantial pause)...let us pray: **Lord, have mercy**

For the needs that we bring before you now, whether in words or in sighs too deep for words, let us pray:
Lord, have mercy.

Giving thanks for those who have died in faith and who are now bathed in the light that transfigured Jesus before his disciples, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Finally, as Jesus has taught us, we are bold 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.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of all hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Jim Cunningham	Assisting Minister
Judy Wadding	Reader
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Josh Kamerer	AV Assisting Minister
Heather Helsel	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Jack and Amy Beiler	Counters

Flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 2/15	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	5:00 PM	NA Meeting

	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Tuesday, 2/16	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
Wednesday, 2/17	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 2/18	5:00 PM	NA Meeting
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Saturday, 2/20	9:00 AM	AA Meeting
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Please Join Us
ASH WEDNESDAY
February 17th**

BRIEF OUTDOOR SERVICES
on the front lawn
7:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM & 5:30 PM

**ZOOM SERVICE WITH
CORPORATE CONFESSION**
7:30 PM

First English Lutheran Church
241 N. Main St. | Butler, PA 16001
(724) 283-2378 | www.FirstEnglishButler.org

Lenten Observance with Butler Area Lutheran Ministries

Wednesdays 12 p.m. beginning February 24: in-person midweek worship at Trinity Lutheran Church (which has the largest sanctuary and best opportunity for social distancing). These services will also be streamed on YouTube and reposted for later viewing.

Wednesday evenings at 7 pm beginning February 24: Online book or Bible study via Zoom. Two options!

Book Study: Samuel Wells' *The Power and the Passion: Six Characters in Search of Resurrection*. This book examines how Jesus' death exposes the truth about our world and how the resurrection opens a new way of life by looking at six biblical characters: Pontius Pilate, Barabbas, Pilot's Wife, Peter, Joseph of Arimathea, and Mary Magdalene. Along the way, we will find insights on topics of contemporary importance: marriage, violence, friendship, and politics.

Leader: Pr. Kimberly van Driel, First English

Bible Study: Ecclesiastes. This Old Testament book provides wisdom and guidance through difficult times.

Leader: Pr. Joel Benson, Trinity

Zoom links TBA.

If you would like Easter flowers, please place your order with the church office (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net by Sunday, March 14th. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the social room or you can contact the office for an order form.

PRAYERS

Hazel Warheit, Eleanor Roth, the family of Gene Fozard, David and Michele, the Jones family, the family of Jean Baldauf, Jamie Goehring, Jason Beckwith, and Devin, Codi, Savannah, Alyssa & Ethan, Rachel Faulkner, Graham Cannon, the family of Pastor Christine and Mark Rotella, Dewey Miller, Edna Hartman, and their loved ones; Debbie Damiano, Frida Nelson, Pam and children, the family and friends of Jake, the family of Marian Boltz, the family of Zack, Sue Morrow, Joan, Joey Lash, Andrea Dubler, Janice Critchlow, Pastor Karl Schoch, Anne Ferguson, the family of Dan Hanczar, Jeanette Cunningham, Marsh Miller, Ida Miller, Helen Wagner, the Lawson family, the Bodnar family, Tyler Jacob Huey, Meredith, Mary and Eleanor, Larry, Frederick Miller, Jim Buehler, Justin Buehler, Cyndy Halin, Cindy Regis & her daughter Angie, Josh, Aryl Bashline, Dave and Diana Braun, David and Gina & family, Shirley Sellers, Crystal, Gayle Wynn, Mary Maloney, the family of Ryan Warheit, the family of Scot Taylor, Claude, Audrey & Jonah Clark, Ed Beck, the family of Jim Templet, the family of Edgard Nieto, the family of Marjorie Ellis, Anita, Jamie and Kaitlin Sprague, Becky Wyckoff, Larry Hamil, Jan Nieto, David and Emma Lee Hartle, the family of Hailey Matheson, Ryan, Forest and Marietta White, Christine Pflugh, Asyiah, the family of Nancy, Joyce Hall, Bruni Bilowich, Karen Vavro, Doug Horner, Sandy, Lisa, Wendy, Rhonda, Judy M., Mary Ellen, Claudia, Karen, Kitty Walker, Gina Ambrosio, Elizabeth, Jena Wright, Tad Sellers, Ralph D'Antonio.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Genesis 9:8-17

The rainbow, sign of God's covenant

Psalm 25:1-10

Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness. (*Ps. 25:10*)

1 Peter 3:18-22

Saved through water

Mark 1:9-15

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days