

**Service of Holy Communion  
Transfiguration of Our Lord  
February 27, 2022  
10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

Improvisation on "This Little Light of Mine" - Charles Callahan  
"The Only Son from Heaven" - J.G. Walther  
"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright" - Gerald Peterson

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION 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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The congregation may kneel as desired.*

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.**

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. **Amen.**



*Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.*

<sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup>But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup>Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup>When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup>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, <sup>35</sup>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 99**      *read responsively*

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

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

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD, great in Zion,  
is high above all peoples.**

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

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

<sup>5</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's  
footstool;

God is the Holy One.

<sup>6</sup>**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,**

<sup>7</sup>you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;

they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

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

<sup>9</sup>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.*

<sup>12</sup>Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; <sup>16</sup>but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>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.

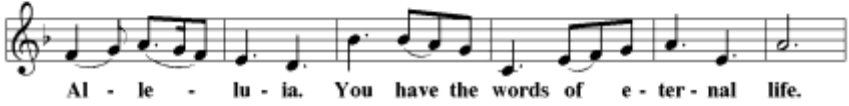
<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the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

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL      Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke the ninth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

<sup>28</sup>Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup>They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup>Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup>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. [

<sup>37</sup>On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. <sup>38</sup>Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." <sup>41</sup>Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43a</sup>And all were astounded at the greatness of God.]

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

## SERMON

*The congregation may stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

sts. 1, 2, 4

Red Book #317

## 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**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

*A brief silence.*

Transform us by your greatness, O God. Send us down the mountain to share joy with all people. Make us agents of hope, confident that your goodness will conquer evil. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Help your church discern the glory of Jesus Christ in all circumstances, even when there is suffering and loss. We pray for our sisters and brothers at Grace @ Calvary as they worship together for the last time at this hour. We thank you for their ministry, and we ask that you would bring their members new life and opportunities for service. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

By your Son's journey to Jerusalem, you made peace with us and opened to our world the blessing of peace. We ask that you would convert the hearts of those who love war and we pray for those who live in the shadow of violence, especially the people of Ukraine and all other places not known to us but beloved by you. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Heal those who are in distress. Give patience to those waiting for answers. Grant hope to those who have reached the limits of treatment. Give compassionate hearts to those who accompany loved ones through illness and uncertainty. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

As we enter the season of Lent this week, bless all who prepare and lead us in worship during this change of season: pastors, deacons, musicians, and all who contribute to our worship life (*especially*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Blessed are they who listened to Christ's voice in this life and now rest with him (*especially*). Transform us from glory into glory, and give us your peace, that we do not lose heart. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

### THE MEAL

#### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation may share the peace by waving at those around you. Please remain in the pew where you are standing or sitting as you share the peace!*

**CHOIR ANTHEM**      "Dazzling Presence on the Mountain"  
- Karen E. Black, b. 1960

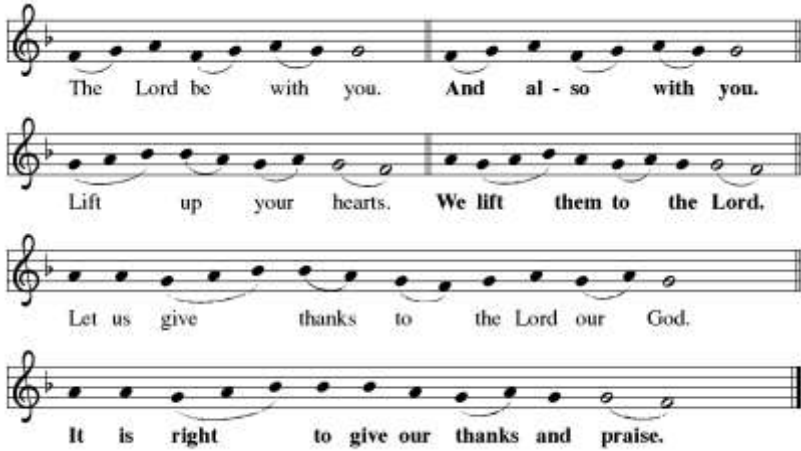
**OFFERING PRAYER**    *led by the assisting minister*

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.  
You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.  
Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food,  
and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world,  
in the name of Christ our light.

**Amen.**



## GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy that we should at all times and in all places...*(The presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding)*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en 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.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life...

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.



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

**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**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## 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, grant us peace.

## SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive; please keep 6 feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.*

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *led by the assisting minister*

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, bless your going out and your coming

in, today and forever. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**      “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”      Red Book #318

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**      “Now Praise the Lord, My Soul”      - Dietrich Buxtehude

**SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

The Rev. Ryan Fitch	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Linda Mathias	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Marlin Boltz	<b>Reader</b>
Sharon Heist Miller	<b>Crucifer</b>
Holly Schubert	<b>Children’s Church</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Marlin Boltz	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Melody Kamerer	<b>PowerPoint Assisting Minister</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>
Bill and Judy Vilcheck	<b>Ushers</b>
Bob and Karen Domanski	<b>Counters</b>

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by Carol Sawford, in loving memory of her husband Brian Sawford and his twin Betty Sawford, and her mother Betty Fulton, and in honor of Carol’s birthday.*

**THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH**

Mon., 2/28	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wed., 3/2	12:15 PM	Brief Spoken Service with Imposition of Ashes
	7:30 PM	Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 3/3	12:30 PM	Bible Study (Social Hall)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal

	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 3/4		Pastor Kimberly's Day Off
Sat., 3/5	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
	9:00 AM – 1:00 PM	DAR Meeting (Social Hall)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Zoom meeting info:**

To join online, click 'Join Our ZOOM Meeting' in the email.

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

**Everyone is invited to a Mardi Gras style coffee hour in the Social Hall after worship today!**

**Pr. Kimberly is away for the weekend.** She will return to the office on Tuesday, March 1. In case of pastoral emergency, please call Pr. Ryan Fitch at 570-768-7460.

**The Thursday morning women's bible study has been moved to a Thursday lunchtime bible study for the month of March!** Please bring a bagged lunch and join us at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday this month in the Social Hall. We will begin a study of Luther's Small Catechism.



*Please Join Us*  
**Ash Wednesday - March 2nd**

*Brief Spoken Service  
with the Imposition of Ashes  
at 12:15 pm*

*Service of Holy Communion  
with the Imposition of Ashes  
at 7:30 pm*

**First English Lutheran Church**  
241 N. Main St. Butler, PA 16001  
[www.FirstEnglishButler.org](http://www.FirstEnglishButler.org)



# COMMUNITY DINNER ART SHOW & SALE

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
120 SUNSET DRIVE  
BUTLER, PA  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022  
12:30 PM - 4 PM  
FREE ART SHOW & SALE  
FEATURING  
JON PUGLIESE

A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS OF ANY ART SOLD BENEFITS  
THE FREE COMMUNITY DINNERS SERVED IN BUTLER EACH WEEK.

## PRAYERS

Tracy Steadman & family; Cassidy; Cheryl; John Negley; Tom Walker; Roberta; Cindy Regis & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Charles Stitt; Tad Sellers; Anne Ferguson; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson; Judy; Claudia; Karen; Anita

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### **Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

*The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand*

### **Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16**

God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)

### **Romans 10:8b-13**

*If you confess that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved*

### **Luke 4:1-13**

*The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days*

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*Butler Area Lutheran Ministries*

**2022 LENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP**

**THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS**



*Wednesdays: March 9th - April 6th*

**Midday Prayer with Chancel Drama**

**Trinity Lutheran Church | Noon**

120 Sunset Drive | Butler, PA

In-Person Only

**Evening Prayer with Chancel Drama**

**First English Lutheran Church | 7 PM**

241 N. Main Street | Butler, PA

In-Person & On Zoom

(Visit [FELC.org](http://FELC.org) for Info)

**Offering Items for**

**Lutheran World Relief Health Kits:**

March 9: Bath Towels

March 16: Bars of Soap

March 23: Toothbrushes

March 30: Combs

April 6: Nail Clippers

*Items may be brought to Wednesday services  
or to your home congregation on Sundays.*