

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
Transfiguration of Our Lord
March 2, 2025
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“O my soul, on wings ascending”
“Awake, Awake”

- Johann Pachelbel
- Joseph W. Clokey

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

The congregation may kneel or adopt another posture appropriate for confession. A moment of silence is kept.

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 sin and release us from its grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways, for the sake 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.

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Red Book #671

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

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff has the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy." The second staff has the lyrics "Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy." The third staff has the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy." The music consists of a series of notes and rests, with some notes beamed together. The final note of each staff is a whole note.

GLORIA



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: 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.

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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 Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites 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 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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.**

⁹Proclaim 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—4:6

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.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not 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. ¹⁴But 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. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And 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. ²We 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. And even 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.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL Luke 9:28-43a

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.

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.

³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸ Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹ Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with

you? Bring your son here.”⁴² 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.^{43a} And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair”

Red Book #316

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 Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

We pray for your people, glorious God, that you would remove from our hearts admiration of wealth and power, the desire for strength at another's expense, and all that obstructs our awareness of your presence. Open our

hearts to the image of Christ in strangers, neighbors, friends, and foreigners
God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for this country. Cast out from our common life cruelty,
arrogance, and boasting. Make known in us the kind of strength that is
accompanied with wisdom, compassion, and thoughtfulness. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for our Jewish neighbors, especially Congregation B'nai Abraham
here in Butler, that they would be protected from antisemitism and all
danger and that you would give them supportive relationships with people
of all faiths. We also pray for the Butler Clergy Network as they work to
foster respect for human dignity in this community. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for desperate parents throughout the world who seek healing,
food, safety, or acceptance for their children. Give a special measure of
mercy to those who raise families in situations of violence, poverty, and
illness, God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those most on our hearts this morning....

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

We thank you for those who have died in Christian hope and now rest with
you. Bring us with them that together we may see the glory of the risen
Christ face to face. 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.

The congregation may stand.

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The congregation may sit.

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“St. Flavian, Adagio”

- Flor Peeters

with Kevin Mathias on Recorder

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Transform Us”

- Tune: PICARDY, French Carol

- Sylvia Dunstan, 1955-1993

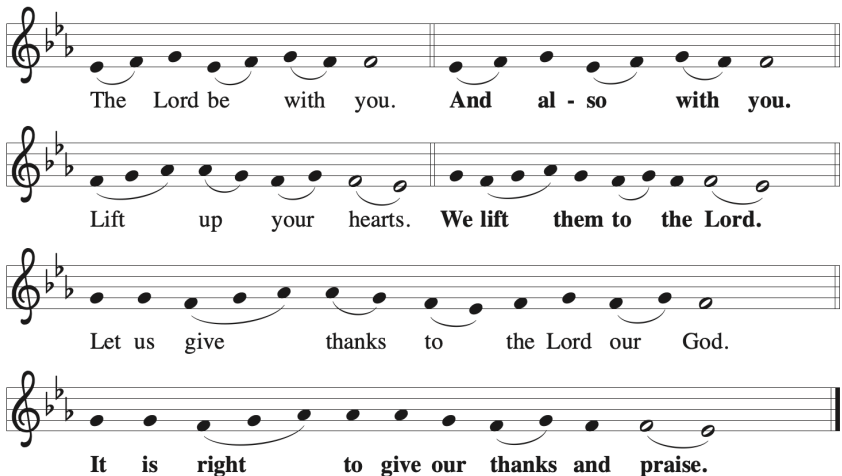
1. Transform us as you, transfigured, stood apart on Tabor's height.
Lead us up our sacred mountains, search us with revealing light.
Lift us from where we have fallen, full of questions, filled with fright.
2. Transform us as you, transfigured, once spoke with those holy ones.
We, surrounded by the witness of those saints whose work is done,
Live in this world as Your body, chosen daughter, chosen sons.
3. Transform us as you, transfigured, would not stay within a shrine.
Keep us from our great temptation-- time and truth we quickly bind.
Lead us down those daily pathways where our love is not confined.

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The notation includes treble clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy... *the presiding minister continues giving thanks*

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

The congregation may sit.

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. 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.

After all have received, the congregation may stand.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“O Beauty Ever Ancient”

Purple Book #1100

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



A - ho - ra, Se - ñor, se - gún tu pro - me - sa, pue - des de -
At last, Lord, your word of prom - ise - fill - ing, you let your



jar a tu sier - vo ir - se en paz. Por - que mis
ser - vant go forth in free - dom and peace. With my own



o - jos han vis - to a tu Sal - va - dor, a quien has
eyes I have seen the sal - va - tion you have pre -



pre - sen - ta - do an - te to - dos los pue - blos: . . .
pared . . . in the sight of all of the peo - ples: a



luz pa - ra a - lum - brar a las na - cio - nes, y
light that will re - veal you to the na - tions, and the



glo - ria de tu pue - blo Is - ra - el.
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

led by the assisting minister

THE SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

Red Book #838

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Lord is with you!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr”

- Max Reeger

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sue Morrow	Assisting Minister
Jim Cunningham	Communion Assistant
Larry Hamil	Reader
Amelia O'Rourke	Crucifer
Tucker Sequite	Acolyte
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Sr. Choir Director
Jim Cunningham	AV Assisting Minister
Gracie Love	PowerPoint Minister
Dan Morrow, Stan Graff, Andrew O'Rourke	Ushers
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	Counters
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Signe Mitchell in memory of loved ones.

All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 3/3	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Tues., 3/4	5:30 PM	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Wed., 3/5	12:15 PM	Brief Spoken Service
	7:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Thurs., 3/6	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Social Hall)
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sat., 3/8	10:30 AM	ACA Meeting (Downstairs)
	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 3/9	9:00 AM	Bible Study (Pastor's office)
	10:00 AM	Worship
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on March 4 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Please sign up in the social hall.

Please Join Us
Ash Wednesday - March 5th

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



If you would like to order Easter flowers, please sign up in the social hall or contact the church office by Sunday, March 30.

There will be a brief congregational meeting following worship on March 16th for the sole purpose of approving a contract to refurbish the grand piano. Details about the refurbishment and the funding went out in the March newsletter this week. If you have any questions, please speak to Jeanne Graff, council president, or Pr. Kimberly.

The Community Meal Gala committee is preparing for our art show weekend on March 29 & 30. We will have a variety of raffle baskets and invite you or your group to provide a basket for our raffle. Personal or business sponsorships are also welcome. If you are interested in providing a basket, making cookies for the cookie table, or volunteering at the events, please contact Tracy (724) 712-4084 or Mary Ann (724) 822-3389.

PRAYERS

Marsh Miller; Paul & Mary; Becky Smith; Peter Osborne; Eric Love; Nancy & Dave McDermitt; family of Walter Fitzpatrick; family of Bernhard Klann; Hannah Love; Larry Hamil; Jake Stevens; Kathy & Tom Frank; Gerry and John O'Rourke; family of Thomas Olson; Karen Boltz's sister & her family; Randy & Gigi Kosier; Bruce Solomon; Tim Reamer; Shirley Mould; Nelson Ng; Jack Goetz; Debbie & family; family of Alice Miller; Mackenzie Hunt; Tatum Scilia; Fred Miller; Jaime Rickert; family of

Dorothy Croupe; family of Amy; Cindy Regis & all those who are affected by the hurricanes; Laura Warmbrod's mother; Rob; Jamie Maluk & family; David Fisher & family; Tommy, Jenny, & Aspen Zarnick; family of Richard Daller (brother of Betty Turner); Scott Tamarro; George Schaney; Stephen Wright; Steve; Don Eckels; Valerie Kurth; family of John Mileski; Cindy Halin; Mike Gibson; Dennis; Debra Williamson; Amy Waldron; Evelyn Shaulis; Bill Brown; Ben & the Keeler family; Tracy Tucci; Iman; Aryl Bashline; Julie, Greg & family; family of Kenneth Mathias; Pr. Jim Dollhopf & family; family & friends of Walter Szczurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers; Pam Patterson; Carol Johnson

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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