

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania
Service of Holy Communion
Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 15, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Was Gott tut, das ist wohlgetan”

- F.W. Marpurg and
J. Pachebel

“Speak, O Lord”

- K. Getty/S. Townend

“Deo Gracias”

- Carl Schalk/Wilbur
Held, *arr.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation may stand.

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, sit, or adopt another posture appropriate for confession.

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.

GATHERING HYMN

“How Good, Lord, Be Here!”

Red Book #315

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.

LITANY

God, be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on earth, your saving power among the nations.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Blessing and Honor"

sts. 1 and 3

Red Book #854

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.

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING Exodus 24:12-18

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the Lord" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

¹²The 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." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴To 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."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The 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. ¹⁷Now 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. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 2 *read responsively*

¹Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against the Lord's anointed?**

³"Let us break their yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their bonds from us."

- 4 God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the Lord holds them in derision.**
- 5** Then in wrath God speaks to them,
and in rage fills them with terror.
- 6 “As for me, I have anointed my king
upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**
- 7** Let me announce the decree of the Lord,
who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**
- 9** You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**
- 11** Submit to the Lord with fear,
and with trembling bow in worship;
- 12 lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.
Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

SECOND READING 2 Peter 1:16-21

At the transfiguration, God’s voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God’s voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

16 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. **17** 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.” **18** We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

19 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. **20** First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, **21** because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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.

Repeat alleluia



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

GOSPEL Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

¹Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then 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." ⁵While 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!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

The congregation may sit.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

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

As God's beloved children, let us pray for the well-being of the earth, for the church, and for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers, the assisting minister bids:

God of love and light,

The people respond:

Receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes:

Confident that the Spirit receives our prayers, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to God's mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

"How Good, Lord, to Be Here"

- Hugo Gehrke, *arr.*

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Catch the Vision! Share the Glory!"

- Carl Schalk

OFFERING PRAYER

led by the assisting minister

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,

his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again,
 we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
 and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
 and these your own gifts of bread and wine,

so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
 may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,

and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,

may be formed to live as your holy people

and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

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

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.

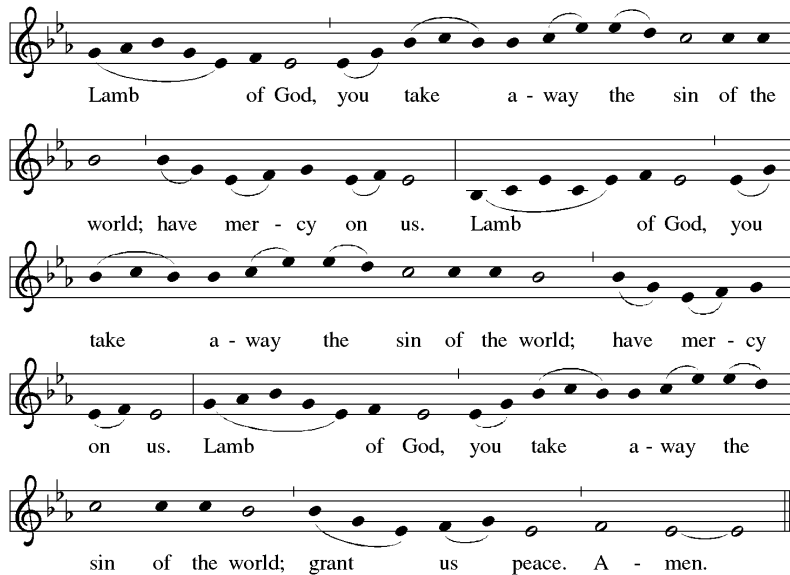
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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. A - men.

The congregation may sit.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

You are invited to receive Holy Communion tonight. Lutherans believe that the body and blood of Christ are present with the bread and wine. Gluten-free wafers are available for those who cannot consume wheat; please let the pastor know. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may still come forward and kneel for a blessing from the pastor.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

"O Beauty Ever Ancient"

Purple Book #1100

After all have received, the congregation may stand.

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

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

Red Book #318

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

"To God Be the Glory"

- Fanny Crosby

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rev. Kimberly van Driel | Presiding Minister |
| Lois Trimbur | Assisting Minister |
| Mollie Hibbs | Communion Assistant |
| Marlin Boltz | Reader |
| Amelia O'Rourke | Crucifer |
| Claudia van Driel | Acolyte |
| Kevin Mathias | Organist |
| Harry Cunningham | Sr. Choir Director |
| Josh Kamerer | AV Assisting Minister |
| Joan Giese | PowerPoint Minister |
| Bob & Karen Domanski, Brendan Stevens | Ushers |
| Bob & Karen Domanski | Counters |
| Roxanne Glagola | Altar Guild |

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

All are welcome to join us in the social hall after worship today.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

| | | |
|--------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Mon., 2/16 | 5:00 PM | Community Dinner |
| | 8:00 PM | NA Meeting (Social Hall) |
| Tues., 2/17 | 5:30 PM | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper |
| Wed., 2/18 | 12:15 PM | Ash Wednesday: Brief Service |
| | 7:30 PM | Ash Wednesday: Communion Service |
| | 7:30 PM | Woman's Way Out AA (Downstairs) |
| Thurs., 2/19 | 10:30 AM | Bible Study |
| | 7:00 PM | Choir Practice |
| | 7:30 PM | NA Meeting (Downstairs) |
| Sat., 2/21 | 12:00 PM | NA Meeting (Downstairs) |
| Sun., 2/22 | 9:00 AM | Bible Study (Social Hall) |
| | 10:00 AM | Worship |

| | | |
|--|---------|-----------------------------|
| | 4:30 PM | Lenten Learning Opportunity |
| | 5:30 PM | AA Meeting (Downstairs) |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us today for our Intergenerational Event! We are continuing our 2025-2026 theme of Stories of Hope. We will explore Holy Communion as a feast of hope. Hope to see you there!

The Confirmation Meeting that was scheduled for today, has been canceled.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on February 17 at 5:30-6:30 pm. Please sign up in the social hall. Helpers are needed!

Ash Wednesday Services, on February 18th, will be held at 12:15 pm and 7:30 pm. The 12:15 pm service will be a brief spoken service with imposition of ashes. The 7:30 pm service will be the service of Holy Communion with imposition of ashes. All are welcome to join!

Church Directory Update: Help us keep our church family connected! After the service, please stop by the social hall to review a hard copy of our directory. We ask that one representative from each family initial next to their entry to confirm their contact information is correct. Any corrections, please indicate on the hard copy.

We want to ensure the well-being of every parishioner. In the event of a medical or personal emergency while on campus, we want to know exactly who to call to support you. Please visit the social hall to fill out an Emergency Contact Form. These forms are kept confidential and will only be accessed by authorized staff if an urgent need arises.

The 2025 Contribution Statements and the February 2026 newsletter are now available for pick up in the Social Hall. We are deeply grateful for your continued generosity and partnership in our ministry. If you are unable to pick yours up in person, please Contact the Church Office to request that a digital copy be emailed to you.

Submissions for March's Newsletter are due to the office by Thursday, February 19, 2026.

Help us beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday! The sign-up sheet for Easter flowers is available in the Social Hall. Flowers will decorate the alter during our celebration and will be yours to take home after the service. Orders are due by March 8th.

The Community Dinner Ministries served 269 guests last Monday, February 9, 2026. Our team of volunteers worked together to ensure every guest was served efficiently and with a welcoming atmosphere.

If you would like to add or remove someone to the prayer list, please add them to the list on the bulletin board in the social hall or contact the church office. officefelc@zoominternet.net.

PRAYERS

Joan Giese; DJ Sampson; Justine Brown; Darrell Mueller; Keith Graff; Cindy Regis; Hannah Love; Karen Boltz's sister & her family; Nelson Ng; Valerie Kurth; Sue Henry; Tad Sellers; Aryl Bashline, Keeler Family; Charlie and Ellen VanArsdale; Chris and his family; Linda Mae; Betsy Guimond; Joanne; Wynter; Michelle; Shawn Barry; Robert Gamble; Lisa and Jim; Gavin Graff; Bob Fleeger; Mike Chapman; Kim Thompson Parkh; Jack Johnson; Jessica Steightner and family; Kim; Dave and Marianne Hill; the family of Jacob Ruth; Gerry O'Rourke; Amelia Cline; Evelyn Shaulis; Family & friends of Bruce Solomon; Family and friends of Gerry Wigton; Susan; the family and friends of Frank Miller; Elaine; Gilmore Hilliard; Frank Ian; Duane Cooper; Patrick Farley; The family & friends of Stephen Laine (Nancy Schneidmiller); Mackenzie Perkins; Janice Krause; Lucas Bray; Randy Kosior; The family & friends of Greg Whitely; Gigi and Randy Kosior.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil

Psalm 32

Mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. (Ps. 32:10)

Romans 5:12-19

Death came through one; life comes through one

Matthew 4:1-11

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

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Ash Wednesday
SERVICES

Please join us at First English!
Wednesday, February 18

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

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

241 North Main Street, Butler, Pa 16001
www.firstenglishbutler.org

Reading the Scriptures with Love and Respect



for the Jewish People



A Lenten Discussion Series

With the ELCA congregations in the Butler Area

First English Lutheran Church - 241 N. Main Street, Butler
Sundays Feb Feb. 22, March 1, March 8, March 15 and March 22
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm