

Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 2025 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: ... 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 faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

How Good, Lord, to Be Here

ELW 315

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

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

C: 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.

Children's Message

Peggy Burns, S.A.M.

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.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia

S 151a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

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.

P: A reading from... **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

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.

(continued on next page)

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Peggy Burns S.A.M.

Song of the Day:

Jesus on the Mountain Peak

ELW 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 the Church / Sign of the Peace (Let us give one another a sign of peace according to your comfort level.)

Offering / Offering Song:

Zeke Clemons

Offertory:

We Place Upon Your Table, Lord (v 1 & 3)

ELW 467

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray together

C: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Words of Institution

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.

Communion (Please note: gluten-free wafers and white grape juice cups are available)

Communion Songs:

**Beautiful Savior
I Received the Living God**

**ELW 838
ELW 477**

Final Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
C: Amen.

Sending Song:

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.
C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem March 2, 2025
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1050 Peninsula Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-9880
www.bethlehemtc.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

03/04--Kenneth Smith
03/04—Joann Stepka
03/05—Jodi Kelly

03/05—Cheryl Wegener
03/07—Lisa Schlagel
03/08—Corinne Hill

Wednesday, March 5th is our Ash Wednesday service
Join Us next Sunday, March 9th for our Traditional service

Daylight Savings Time returns on March 9th – don't forget to set your clocks ahead on Saturday night.

Worship Servants for March 2

Assisting Minister and Preacher—Peggy Burns

Lector—Mary Ann Tanis

Musicians: David Husser, Zeke Clemons, Phil & Denice Bossardet, Pr Paul

Today's altar flowers are donated: *By Doug & Diane Cunningham in Celebration of our 49th wedding anniversary*

Hospitality—Dan & Laura Hahn

A/V—Barbara Oster / Jim Hinds

Cookies/Coffee—Kathie Bair / Mary Ann Tanis

Welcome Table—Gail Goldsmith

Bell Ringer—Gail Goldsmith

Front Door Monitors: Gail Goldsmith

Altar Guild—Mary Ann Tanis / Gail Goldsmith

Tech Support—Julia Acker

Counters—Laura Han / Mike McCarty

What IS GRIEVING? Could it be the loss of a marriage, your home, or community, good health, a dream or something else? The list can go on and on. No matter the loss you have a family here at Bethlehem that loves you, wants to support you, and be here for you! We meet here on the first Monday of the month from 3:30-4:30 and on the third Monday from 5:30-6:30. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Burns 231-392-6913.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will begin at 5:30 on March 4th. The menu will be: Buttermilk and gluten free pancakes, sausage links, crustless quiche (gluten free) with ham and cheese, fruit, juice and coffee. We will play games after dinner, so bring your favorite games. Please come for a nice evening of food, fellowship and fun. First Communion Classes will begin on Sunday, March 9th at 9:00am. The dates will be March 9, 16, 30 and April 6. For any questions, please see either Pr Paul or Sherri Helman.

NEW MEMBER MEETING: If you want to be an official member of BLC, please join us Sunday March 9 after the service in the library. We will have some snacks, learn about Bethlehem, and have a chance to visit with some long-time and potential new members. Bring your calendar so we can set the date for official date of your acceptance during a Sunday service.

XYZ: All adults are invited to join us for another wonderful XYZ potluck and presentation on Friday, March 14th! The potluck lunch begins at noon, and afterward we will have a presentation by H.A.N.D.D.S. to the Rescue. H.A.N.D.D.S. is a local, volunteer-based rescue for dogs. They do not have a shelter - all dogs are placed in experienced foster homes where they receive love and care until they find that special home to call their own. Join us for an afternoon of good food and fellowship, followed by a great presentation!

Family Movie Day at BLC! Everyone is invited to join us for an afternoon movie on Saturday, March 15th, at 3pm. We will be watching the Disney Pixar movie WALL-E, which is a great watch for all ages! Popcorn and drinks will be provided. We will have some seating available, but feel free to bring camping chairs, blankets, sleeping bags, or anything else comfy you want! Invite a few friends, and plan on joining us!

Do you have a famous chili or soup recipe? Or, do you just really love eating chili or soup? The Soup & Chili Cook-Off is back on Sunday, March 16th, right after church. We will be raising funds to support Bethlehem's youth program! Prizes will be awarded for best in each category (beef chili, chicken chili, vegetarian chili, and soup) as well as for overall winner! Enter your special recipe or just come to enjoy a delicious lunch. Email Alanna at alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org to enter the competition!

BOOK CLUB NEWS: The next meeting will be Wed, Mar 19 at 5:30. We will be reading "*The Best Part of Us*" by Sally Cole-Misch. This meeting will be a potluck held in an off-site location. If you are not a regular participant, please contact Betsy Morley at betsymorley@charter.net for details.

Scottish Country Folk Dancing at BLC: Some of you have come to the Contra dance on Sat nights here at BLC. Here is a chance to watch or try something a little different. The first gathering will be held on Sunday Apr 27 beginning at 12:15. You can come and have "dessert first" with your BLC friends and then meet some friendly Scottish folks in their plaid kilts who will make share a light meal including haggis and shortbread. Thank you can have a chance to try some basic moves in Scottish country folk dancing. This first event will be free for anyone who is interested.

SAVE YOUR PAPER SACKS: Please check the nooks and crannies of your home for paper sacks. The Baby Pantry fills requests from preschool teachers for their students whose parents cannot make it to the pantry. Paper sacks are the perfect size to place the needed items for each child. Just place your bags on the Care table in the coat room. Thank you!!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please mark June 8 on your calendar and plan to attend if you can. It is critical for you to be involved in the affairs of your congregation. Also, if any of you are thinking about dipping your toes in the water and becoming more involved as a leader there will be openings on the endowment committees and on council. All of the groups are very welcoming and every person's individual thoughts and talents bring so much more to a group. Please think and pray about it. You can leave your name with the office or any committee or council member

HOW DO WE CARE AND SERVE? John 12:26 “Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me”. YOU ARE LOVED BY YOUR CHURCH FAMILY. If you would like to have a visit and you would like to receive Communion, Christian Care Giving is here for you! Please let Peggy Burns at 231-392-6914 know and we will have one of our Care Givers come and see you.

DRIVING VOLUNTEERS?: Thanks to those who have already said “yes” to being a regular or substitute driver to transport a delightful member couple to church. They have good mobility but due to other health issues currently cannot drive. They live at the east end of 14th street so it should be an easy pick-up and drop off for any members coming from the south or west side of town. They will be out of town with their family during the months of Feb and March, so rides will need to be lined up as of the beginning of April. If you would like to be added to the list of volunteers please contact Cindy Monroe at cmonroe@chartermi.net or 231 631 0887.

PROTECT OUR CARPET: spills always happen, but we now have TWO consistent ways to deal with them. Thanks to an anonymous donor we now have an actual carpet cleaning machine stored in the maintenance closet. **If you cause one or see a spot, please grab the spot cleaner in the squirt container below the sink in the fellowship hall ASAP. Just follow the directions on the bottle and we should be able to keep our carpet in good condition. But, if the stain is too big or too resistant, please use the carpet cleaning machine. The longer the stain sits, the harder it is to clean. Thank you!!**

THANK YOU NOTE: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Thank you for your time and talent with all the baking you did for our February Event Night. The moms had a dessert before dinner that night and loved all the goodies you made them. Single MOMM could not serve our moms without the support of community members like Bethlehem! We appreciate all the love & support you've given. Blessings, Karie & the Single MOMM Team

Alcoholics Anonymous: TC Groups are holding their Open Talk here at Bethlehem on three Saturday nights of each month from 8:00-9:00pm. They will not meet here on the second Saturday due to Contra on that night where they will meet at their TC Group office across from Sara Lee..

Coffee and Cookies on Sunday: Remember that treats and a drink on Sunday are appreciated by all. The sign-up sheet has many BLANK spaces so please take a moment to sign up to bring cookies or some other tasty treat on the Sunday that works best for you. Or sign up to prepare the coffee to give our loyal volunteer Mary Ann Tanis a day off.

Looking for A/V Volunteers! Would you be interested in volunteering to help with audio/visual up in the choir loft during services? We are looking to add a few more A/V volunteers to our list! Our current volunteers are absolutely fantastic! We would love to add a few more people to the rotation and have a few more people on the list. If you would be interested in learning, please contact Barbara Oster.

Volunteers for Watching the Front Door During Worship: The Safety and Security Committee has the new sign up sheets available. We need volunteers who can be available to stay in the Gathering Space to lock the doors and let in late comers for Sundays. We appreciate all of the volunteers. If you have any questions, the committee members are Gail Goldsmith, Maureen Bauer, and Jana Rockne.

CHAIR YOGA: Chair Yoga continues every Monday at 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5.00 per person. It is slow paced stretches that helps with balance, flexibility and relaxation. Come and try it out.

The March issue of the STAR is now available. If you receive the weekly email, your March issue was emailed on March 1st. The shut-ins will receive an issue by mail. There will also be a few copies available on the counter by the mailboxes. You may also contact the office at 947-9880 to request that mail delivery continues. For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at www.bethlehemtc.org < About Us > “The Online Bethlehem Star” or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>.

Wednesday Bible Studies:

The Adult Bible Study meets from 9:30am—11:30am with the topic of the Book of 1 Corinthians

The Zoom Bible Study meets from 1:30pm—3:00pm -- The group will not meet on March 5. They will begin a 4-week study of the Book of Isaiah on Wednesday, March 12th. Contact either Pr. Paul or Barbara with questions.

Food pantry news: Winter has definitely come in with a bang. In order to keep our food pantry open in these freezing temperatures, we have to shift the types of items we keep it stocked with. Foods in cans and glass jars can't withstand these temperatures. Therefore, consider picking up dry good, especially things like powdered milk, cereal, and pasta. We can also stock hand and foot warmers and some personal care items. Thank you in advance for your generous and continued support of our little pantry. Suzanne and Kathie

You are Invited to Sunday Morning Adult Education: it is that time again, time to power up our learning and sharing of Scripture. Adult Education has resumed. We will meet in the Youth Room from 9:15 to 9:45 each Sunday to discuss the lessons for the day. This is a relaxed venue, with inquisitive sharing, practical application, and an opportunity to get better acquainted with your brothers and sisters in Christ! We hope you will join... All Are Welcome!!!!

Spotlight on Zeke: So many of us enjoy Zeke's talents with religious music, but did you know that he plays other kinds of music at various locations in the Traverse City area? Here is a list of his engagements in the next month that are close to TC:

Wed 3/5—The Pub, Traverse City 7:00pm **Sat 3/8**—Hotel Indigo, Traverse City 6:00pm

Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday. Office Phone #: 231-947-9880

Offerings: Even though the offering plates are passed during the service, you may use the vase in the back of the Sanctuary if you prefer not to touch the offering plate.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We often find the front door and/or the kitchen door unlocked when there is no one in the building. Please be sure that the doors are locked when you leave.

Please Note:

Barbara Oster/Administrative Assistant works 9:00am-2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

Phil Anderson/Bookkeeper works 8:30am-12:30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Alanna Steffunick-Boomer/Ministry Coordinator works 9:00am-2:30pm – in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday and from home on Thursday – **Please note that this is a new schedule**

Looking for a link to last month's full Council minutes? Type this address/url into your web browser to get the latest approved minutes from Council: bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes OR you may call the office to request a copy.

Prayer Requests:

- Prayer Chain: Please contact Jan Stretlien at jstretlien@gmail.com or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880 or admin@bethlehemtc.org

Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font! Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at beo6475@yahoo.com or 231.668.7038.

Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years. They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. **Leave them in plastic bags by the garage.** These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

Are you looking for the Caring Table for your donations? It is now located inside the coat room to the right. Your donations are very much appreciated.

LOST AND FOUND: If you lose something in the church building, please check our new Lost and Found box located in the Coat Room. Also, if you find something, please put it in the box.

A big thank you to all who have turned in Olesons' slips. On January 7th, we received a check from Olesons for \$317.06. Olesons' slips never expire. Please continue to turn in your Olesons receipts to Bethlehem. Thanks so much!!! **Also, the area for the Oleson receipts is in the lower cabinets below the mailboxes (under the A-B-Cs...).** The cabinet door is marked with the receptacle inside. Unfortunately, we are no longer collecting the receipts from Family Fair.

Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about? Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements, weekly emails and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included in any of these, please reach out to alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org If you are not getting the weekly emails for any reason, please contact Alanna.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. NOTE: There are no altar flowers during Lent. Please use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance. You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

The church calendar is below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is of the calendar.

Sunday, March 2

9:15am—Sunday School
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
10:00am—Worship Service (S)
2:00pm—Girl Scouts (Library)

Monday, March 3

2:30pm—Choir rehearsal (S)
3:00pm—Chair Yoga (FH)
3:30pm—Grief Group

Tuesday, March 4

Bulletin articles due today

Shrove Tuesday

9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)
9:00am—Property Work Group
10:45am—Staff Meeting (CR)
5:30pm—Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (FH)

Wednesday, March 5

ASH WEDNESDAY

9:30am—Adult Bible Study (Library)
11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)
7:00pm—Ash Wednesday Service (S)

Thursday, March 6

5:30pm—ACA (FH)

Saturday, March 8

6:00pm—LifeRing Recovery Group (Library)
7:00pm—Contra Dance (FH)

Sunday, March 9

9:00am—First Communion Class
9:15am—Adult Education (YR)
10:00am—Worship Service (S)
11:30am—New Member Meeting (Library)

