

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

MARCH 2, 2025

10:30 AM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

901 EAST STROOP ROAD

KETTERING, OHIO 45429-4688

(937) 298-0136

INTRODUCTION

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

Lifting the Veil

The transfiguration is frustrating for disciples—past and present—who long for an unmediated experience of God. Jesus' glory is revealed, and then, just as suddenly, a cloud descends and the vision fades. And even though Paul contrasts the Christian's experience of God with Moses's veiled experience of God, he notes that we see the glory of the Lord "as though reflected in a mirror" (2 Cor. 3:18). Even with unveiled faces, we don't see directly, or even clearly. Even when God is revealed in shining glory, much remains veiled and hidden.

As he witnesses Jesus' transfiguration, Peter's understanding remains veiled; ours does too. The glimpses we get of God's glory—through the veil or reflected in the mirror—are expectation-shattering, alarming, overwhelming, and awesome. The love of God shines too brightly to view directly, and yet we do have the privilege of directly experiencing that love in baptism, in communion, in service to God, and in relationship with God's creation and our neighbors in need. The veils we contend with daily are the barriers that prevent us from truly loving those neighbors, caring for creation, and seeing the shining face of Jesus in the faces of people who are different, hungry, difficult, enemy, invisible, or poor. God is always revealed in ways that surprise and confuse us, whether shining on the mountaintop or dying on the cross.

** *indicates to stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judy Treadway

** CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

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

Amen.

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

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

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 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.

** FORGIVENESS

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. **Amen.**

** GATHERING HYMN

"You Are Holy" (ELW 525)

1*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



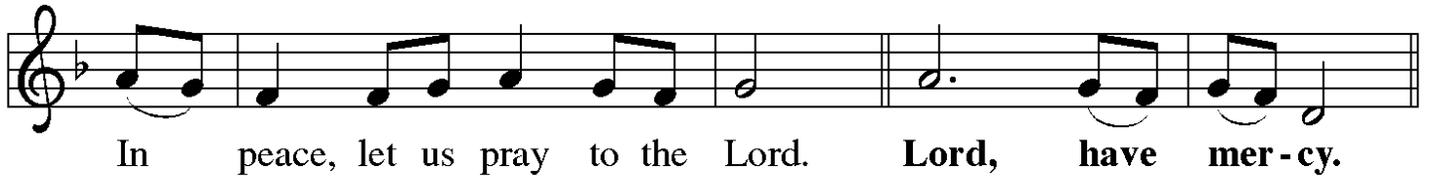
ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

**** GREETING**

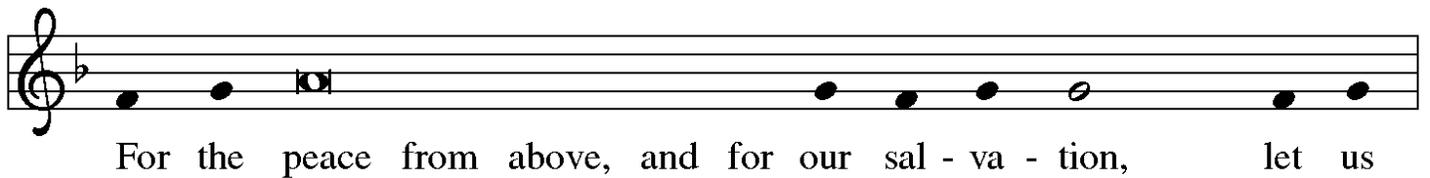
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**** KYRIE**

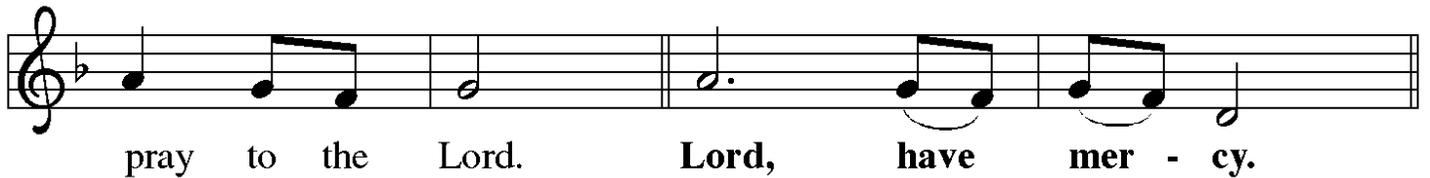
Assisting Minister



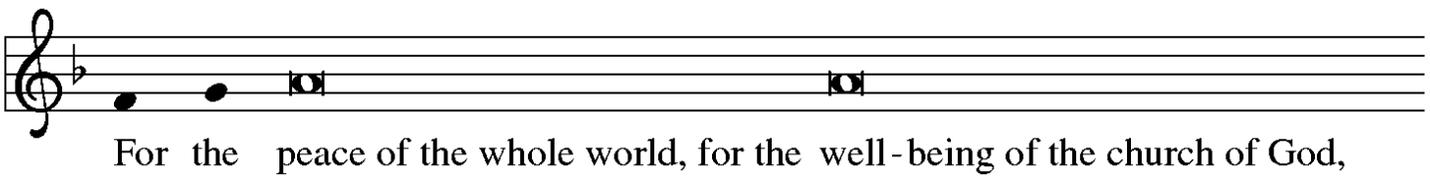
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



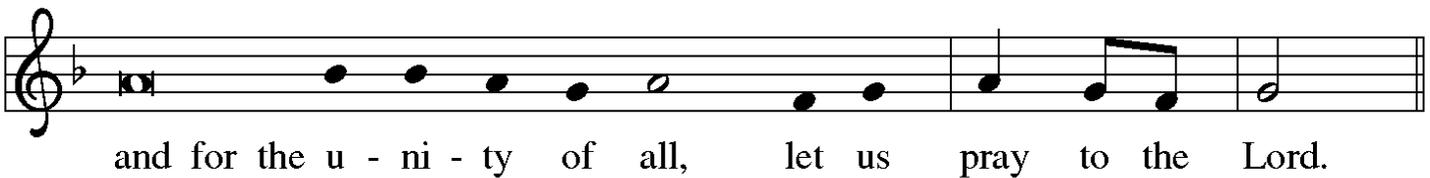
For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



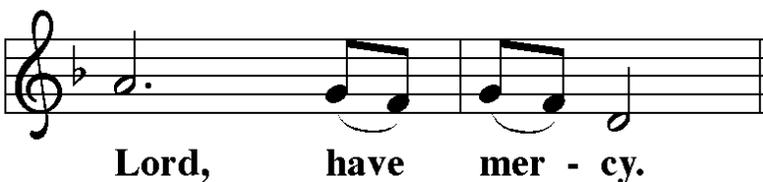
pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



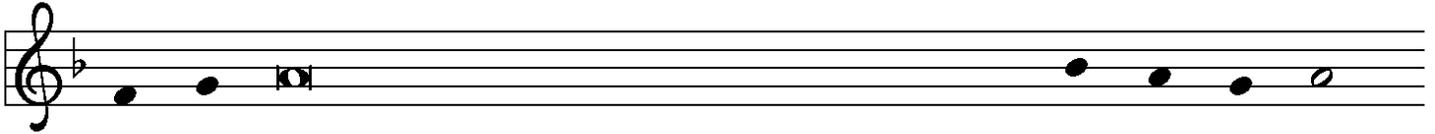
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



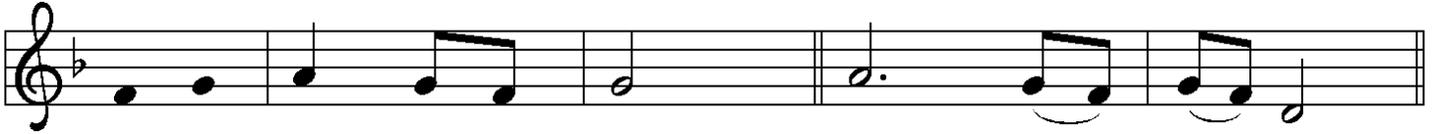
and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

**** CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

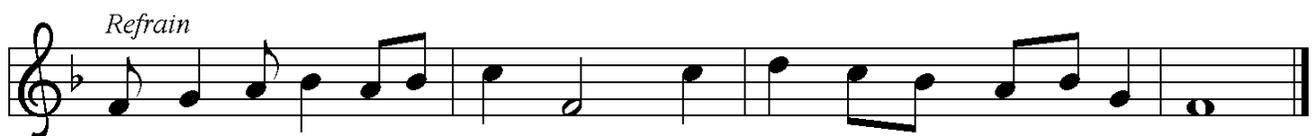


you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

**** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Assisting Minister

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.**

**** PASSING OF THE PEACE**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

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.

A reading from Exodus.

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. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; 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, 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

Psalm 99

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord; worship upon God's holy hill. (Ps. 99:9)

The Lord is king; let the people tremble.

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

**The Lord, great in Zion,
is high above all peoples.**

Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;

God is the Holy One.

**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's footstool;

God is the Holy One.

**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,

you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;

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

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed;

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

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.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, 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. 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. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 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.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. 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.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

**** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, 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 READING**

Luke 9:28-36, 37-43a

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.

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

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

YOUTH MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Bob Swanson

** HYMN OF THE DAY

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

(Verse - Music Ministers/**All**)
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you,
I want to see you.

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you,
I want to see you.**

(Refrain - **All**/Music Ministers)
To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love
As we sing “holy, holy, holy.”

(Verse - All)

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you,
I want to see you.**

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see you,
I want to see you.**

(Refrain - All/Music Ministers)

**To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love
As we sing "holy, holy, holy."
To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of your glory.
Pour out your power and love
As we sing "holy, holy, holy."**

**Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.**

**Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.**

**Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.**

**** 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 power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
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**

Assisting Minister

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

A brief silence.

Each intercession concludes:

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.**

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Assisting Minister

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.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

** DIALOGUE

Lift up your heads; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your voices; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your hearts; **we lift them up to God.**

** THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another.

** 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

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

Come, eat this meal of gladness.

For those communing at home or in the pew:

COMMUNION — *Receiving the Lord's tangible presence*

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

Each person may respond: Amen.

Communion Statement ~ If you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is your Savior and Redeemer and would like to receive Holy Communion, then come forward to receive the elements. If you would just like to come forward and receive a blessing, then you may do that also.

NOTE: We invite everyone to come forward for Holy Communion. If you have a gluten allergy, gluten-free wafers are available upon request when receiving Communion. Also, if you prefer not to receive wine at Communion, apple juice is available upon request. For those choosing to remain in the pews, there are communion all-in-one cups containing grape juice available in the Narthex.

REFLECTION DURING COMMUNION

As we prepare to receive the sacrament today, may we quietly take this time to center ourselves on Christ, and reflect the amazing gifts of grace and forgiveness that we have been given. As we receive the body and the blood of our Lord, let us reflect upon His sacrifice. Finally, may we take this time to ask the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, and then to work in us and through us each and every day.

** COMMUNION HYMN

"Beautiful Savior" (ELW 838)

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in the flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright in the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

**** TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

**** HYMN AFTER COMMUNION**

The Canticle of Simeon



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

**** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Assisting Minister

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

**** SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent. The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

** BLESSING

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

** SENDING HYMN

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing,
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness,

in the midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing;
so our fac - es dis - play your like - ness,

Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

Refrain

Refrain

A E/A D A/C# Bm B⁷

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the

E A E/A D A

Fa - ther's glo - ry; blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our

Bm Bm/A G E A E/A D A/C#

hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the

Bm B⁷ E A E/A

na - tions with grace and mer - cy; send forth your Word,

D A/C# Bm E⁷ A D

<i>To stanzas</i>	<i>Last time</i>
E/A D/A	A

Lord, and let there be light!

**** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Created, saved and gifted by God,

we seek serve and share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“W + 2” = WORSHIP PLUS TWO

**MAKE A COMMITMENT NOT ONLY TO WORSHIP EACH WEEK,
BUT ALSO TRY TO FIND A WAY TO SERVE IN THE CONGREGATION
AND SEEK OUT A WAY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.**

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

**John Wesley, died 1791; Charles Wesley, died 1788;
renewers of the church**

Sunday, March 2, 2025

These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths, their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.

**Perpetua and Felicity and companions,
martyrs at Carthage, died 202**

Friday, March 7, 2025

Vibia Perpetua, a noblewoman, and Felicity, an enslaved woman, were catechumens at Carthage, northern Africa. They, with four other catechumens, had defied the Roman emperor who had forbidden conversions to Christianity, and were put to death in the amphitheater.