

**Alloulu-  
-wait-  
-what now?**

**SUN, MAR 2, 2025**

**TRANSFIGURATION**

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**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

**Pastor Ben Squires**

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: [pastor@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:pastor@bethelgurnee.org)

**Cindy Daluga, Disciple Care Coordinator**  
[Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org)

**Ben Sanders, Mission Facilitator**  
[office@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:office@bethelgurnee.org)

**Website:** [www.BethelGurnee.org](http://www.BethelGurnee.org)

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**ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:**

CHRIS MASON IN CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF HER GRANDDAUGHTER IVY



**THE GOSPEL OF ST. LUKE SERVICE**

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Luke's Gospel.

Luke is the focus of the Year Three Gospel readings in the Narrative Lectionary.

**Opening Hymn**

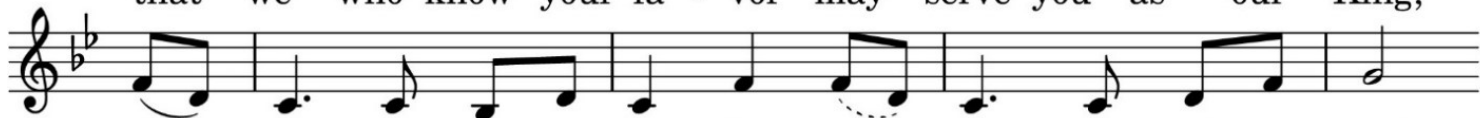
**O God Beyond All Praising**



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day  
2 The flower of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,  
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;  
its fra-gile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;  
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-ery gift you send,  
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown—  
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end.  
though small in mor-tal sta-ture, to heav-en's gar-den grown:  
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



We lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your Word,  
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,  
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.  
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry.  
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

**Invocation** *(Based on Luke 2:14)*

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Glory to God in the highest,

**C: peace to all the Earth,**

P: and goodwill from God in heaven.

**C: Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution**

*(Based on the Song of Zechariah—Luke 1:68-79 (LSB 238), along with Luke 3:7-8,10; 15:21)*

P: John the Baptist was called the prophet of the Most High,

for He went before the Lord Jesus to prepare His way,

confronting the people and us with our sin, saying:

“Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon?

Produce fruit that shows you have repented.

Produce actions that show you have changed your hearts and lives.”

The crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?”

And we find ourselves asking this same question.

**C: Lord, we have sinned. What then shall we do?**

P: God calls on us to confess our sin and seek His forgiveness and mercy,

so that these words from the prodigal son in the parable of Jesus

become our own words of confession:

**C: Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.**

***I am no longer worthy to be called your child.***

P: John the Baptist, the prophet, went before the Lord Jesus

to give His people knowledge of their salvation

by the forgiveness of their sin.

In the tender compassion of our God,

the dawn from on high shall break upon us

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**C: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;**

***He has come to His people and redeemed them.***

***He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,***

***born of the house of His servant David.***

P: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Gloria in Excelsis (based on Luke 2:14)**

LSB 204



1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

**Anthem**

***This Is My Beloved Son***

**Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them,  
And a voice from the cloud said:

"This is my beloved Son, This is my beloved Son,  
With whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him, hear ye, hear Him."

**Anthem****Come to the Mountain****Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

Jesus took Peter, James and John up to the mountain to be alone.  
While they were watching Jesus was changed; and they saw Moses face to face.  
Come to the mountain to see the light.  
Come to the mountain to hear God's Word.  
Go to the valley, it is your home.  
Go to the valley to serve the Lord.

"This is my Son!" said a voice from the cloud. "Listen to him and do what he says!"  
Soon as it came that vision was gone, and they saw Jesus standing alone.  
Come to the mountain to see the light.  
Come to the mountain to hear God's Word.  
Go to the valley, it is your home.  
Go to the valley to serve the Lord.

We will be changed like Jesus our Lord; and live with him in heaven above.  
But while we live on this earthly home, our work as servants never is done.  
Come to the mountain to see the light.  
Come to the mountain to hear God's Word.  
Go to the valley, it is your home.  
Go to the valley to serve the Lord.

**Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading****Luke 9:28-45 (NET)**

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings, Jesus took with him Peter, John, and James, and went up the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> As he was praying, the appearance of his face was transformed, and his clothes became very bright, a brilliant white. <sup>30</sup> Then two men, Moses and Elijah, began talking with him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glorious splendor and spoke about his departure that he was about to carry out at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and those with him were quite sleepy, but as they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. <sup>33</sup> Then as the men were starting to leave, Peter said to Jesus,

**Peter:** Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three shelters, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah

—[Peter did not really understand] what he was saying. <sup>34</sup> As he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then a voice came from the cloud, saying,

**God the Father:** This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him!

<sup>36</sup> After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. So they kept silent and told no one at that time anything of what they had seen.

<sup>37</sup> Now on the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. <sup>38</sup> Then a man from the crowd cried out,

**Man (Father of child):** Teacher, I beg you to look at my son—he is my only child! <sup>39</sup> A spirit seizes him, and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions and causes him to foam at the mouth. It hardly ever leaves him alone, torturing him severely. <sup>40</sup> I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so.

**Jesus:** <sup>41</sup> You unbelieving and perverse generation! How much longer must I be with you and endure you? Bring your son here.

<sup>42</sup> As the boy was approaching, the demon threw him to the ground and shook him with convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. <sup>43</sup> Then they were all astonished at the mighty power of God.

But while the entire crowd was amazed at everything Jesus was doing, he said to his disciples,

**Jesus:** <sup>44</sup> Take these words to heart, for the Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men.

<sup>45</sup> But they did not understand this statement; its meaning had been concealed from them, so that they could not grasp it. Yet they were afraid to ask him about this statement.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

P: Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Transfiguration Song of Praise**

**Come and See**



1. Come and see the glo - ry of \_ the Lord. Come, be-hold the \_ Lamb.  
2. Come and give thanks un-to \_ the Lord. Come, be-hold the \_ Lamb.



Come and see the mer - cy of \_ the King, \_ bow-ing down \_ be - fore \_  
Come and sing the prais-es of \_ the King, \_ bow-ing down \_ be - fore \_



Him. For He is Lord a-bove \_ the heav-ens, Lord in all \_ the earth.



Lord of all \_ the an - gels, wor - thy to \_ be served.



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



lu - ia, Lord.

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**Sermon**

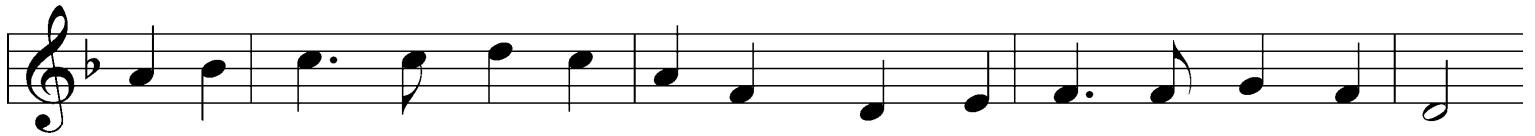
*Allelu-  
-wait-  
-what now?*



1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo-ry, Heav-en's voice, the daz-zling light;  
 2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la-tion, They shall gain and keep its truth,  
 3 Lord, trans - fig - ure our per-cep-tion With the pur - est light that shines,



Mo-ses and E - li - jah van - ish; Christ a - lone com - mands the height!  
 Not by build-ing on the moun-tain An - y shrine or sa - cred booth,  
 And re-cast our life's in - ten - tions To the shape of Your de - signs,



Pe - ter, James, and John fall si - lent, Turn - ing from the sum-mit's rise  
 But by fol - low - ing the Sav - ior Through the val - ley to the cross  
 Till we seek no oth - er glo - ry Than what lies past Cal - v'ry's hill



Down-ward toward the shad-owed val-ley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.  
 And by test - ing faith's re - sil-ience Through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.  
 And our liv - ing and our dy - ing And our ris - ing by Your will.

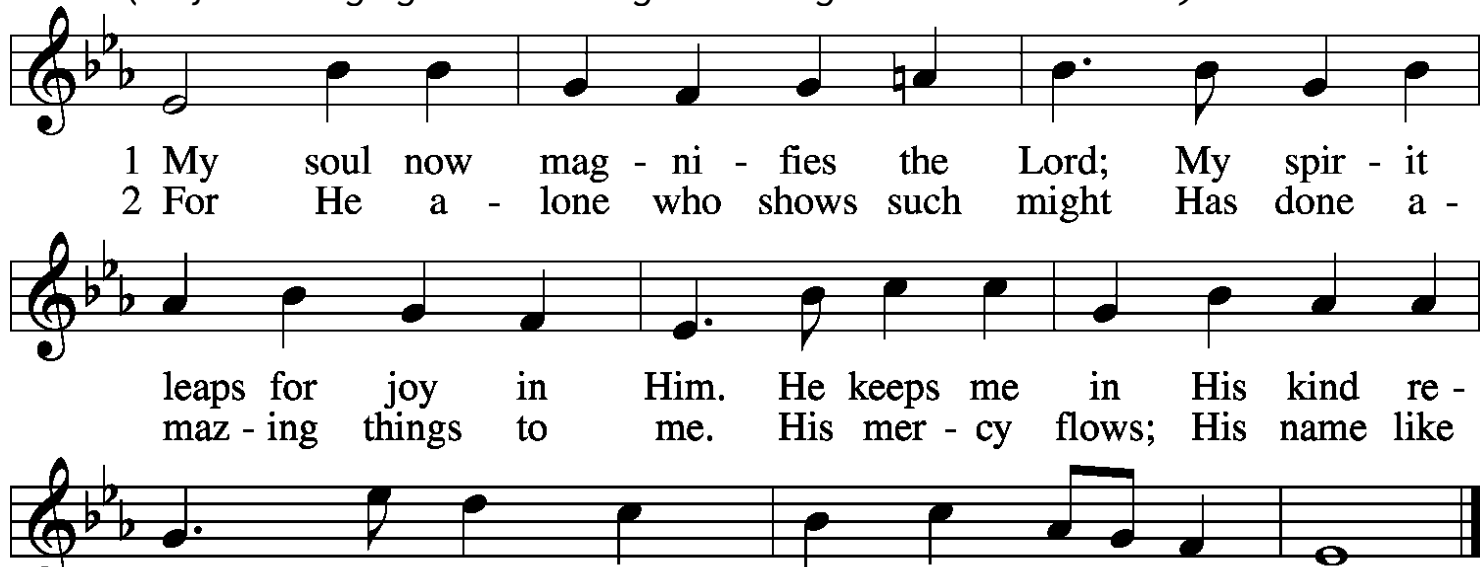
### **Confession of Faith from Luke 24:26-27, 32; 4:21; 24:44-49**

We confess that Jesus interpreted for us the things written about Himself in all the Scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets, so that our hearts burn within us when He opens the Scriptures to us by His Holy Spirit to reveal His grace and mercy. —As Jesus declared, “Today these words have been fulfilled in your hearing.”—He has opened our minds to understand the Scriptures, and shown us, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you—the Holy Spirit.” Amen.

## Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

## Offertory (Based on Mary's Song—the Magnificat—Luke 1:46-55) LSB 934 sts. 1-2 (we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
light Re - mains in light time per - pet - ual - ly.

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## Prayers

### The Lord's Supper: What We Believe

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed  
are invited to receive Communion with us  
if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ,  
and the wine is the blood of Christ,  
truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe,  
we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who  
are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



### Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires., Portions used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 000013448.

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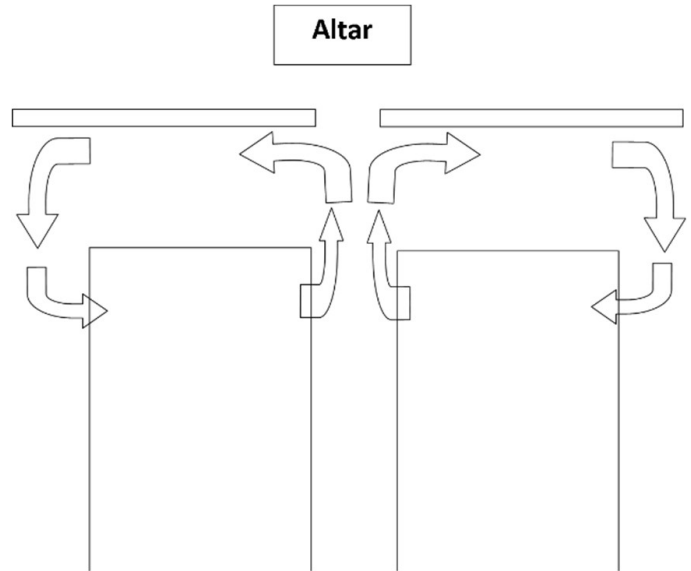
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Luke 3:6-8 used in Confession of Sin and Luke 24:27 used in Confession of Faith are based on Common English Bible (CEB)

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## **Communion Distribution**

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.



## **Preface (based on Luke 15:2,6,32)**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Rejoice that it is true: What the enemies of our Lord meant as an accusation of wrongdoing has become our hope and salvation: This man, our Lord Jesus, the Son of God, receives sinners and eats with them.

**C: Rejoice with me!**

P: The Lord receives you as sinners and invites you to eat at His Table.

**C: Rejoice with me!**

P: The Lord has found His sheep that were lost.

**C: Rejoice with me!**

P: For you were dead, and now are alive in Him.

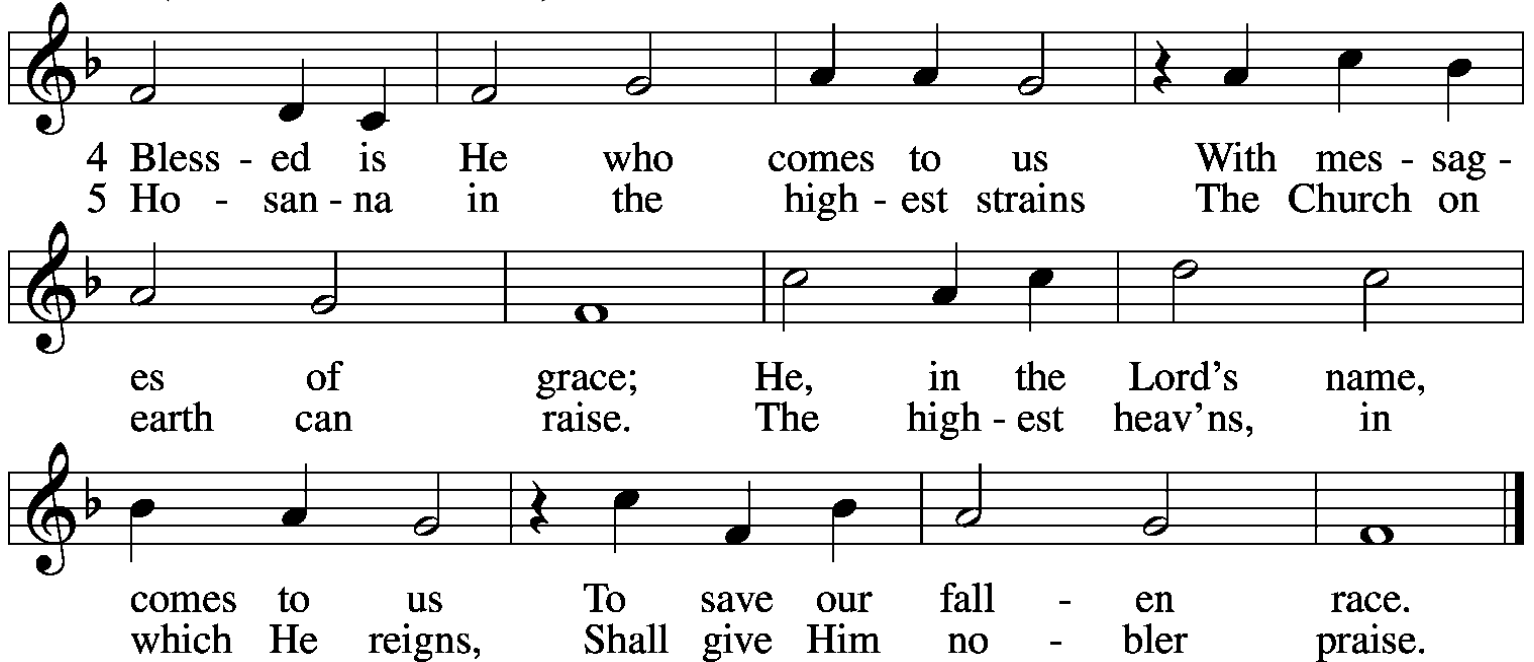
**C: We were lost, and now are found.**

## **Proper Preface for Luke**

P: We pray: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Luke, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus (based on Luke 19:38)**

LSB 903 sts. 4-5



4 Bless - ed is He who comes to us With mes - sag -  
5 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains The Church on  
es of grace; He, in the Lord's name,  
earth can raise. The high - est heav'ns, in  
comes to us To save our fall - en race.  
which He reigns, Shall give Him no - bler praise.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P: You once proclaimed Your saving promise through the prophets of Israel, and by the apostles and evangelists You published the good news of Your saving promise fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Grant that we, being instructed in the doctrine of the blessed apostles and evangelists, may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood and declare His salvation to all the world.

C: Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**All: 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.**



**Words of Institution as in the Gospel of Luke**

Luke 22:14-20

P: <sup>14</sup>And when the hour [of the Passover meal] came, [Jesus] reclined at table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup>For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” <sup>17</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup>For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” <sup>19</sup>And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>20</sup>And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

**Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.      C: **And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

**First Distribution Hymn**

**'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here**

LSB 414



1 'Tis	good,	Lord,	to	be	here!	Thy
2 'Tis	good,	Lord,	to	be	here,	Thy
3 Ful -	fill -	er	of	the	past	And
4 Be -	fore	we	taste	of	death,	We
5 'Tis	good,	Lord,	to	be	here!	Yet



glo - ry	fills	the	night;	Thy	face	and	gar -	ments,
beau - ty	to	be -	hold	Where	Mo -	ses	and	E -
hope	of	things	to	be,	We	hail	Thy	bod -
see	Thy	king -	dom	come;	We	long	to	hold
we	may	not	re -	main;	But	since	Thou	bidst
								us



like	the	sun,	Shine	with	un -	bor -	rowed	light.
li -	jah	stand,	Thy	mes -	sen -	gers	of	old.
glo -	ri -	fied	And	our	re -	demp -	tion	see.
vi -	sion	bright	And	make	this	hill	our	home.
leave	the	mount,	Come	with	us	to	the	plain.

**Second Distribution Hymn Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared**

LSB 622 sts. 1, 6-8



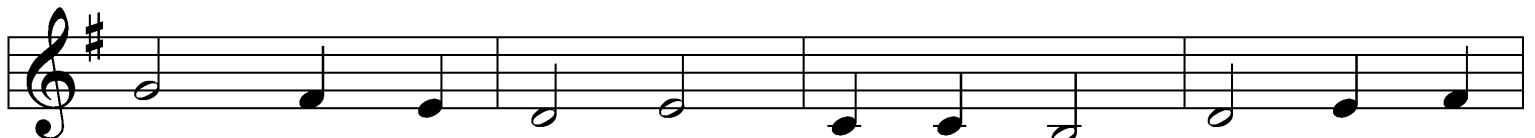
1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for  
6 Lord, I be - lieve what You have said; Help me when  
7 Grant that we wor - thi - ly re - ceive Your sup - per,  
8 For Your con - sol - ing sup - per, Lord, Be praised through-



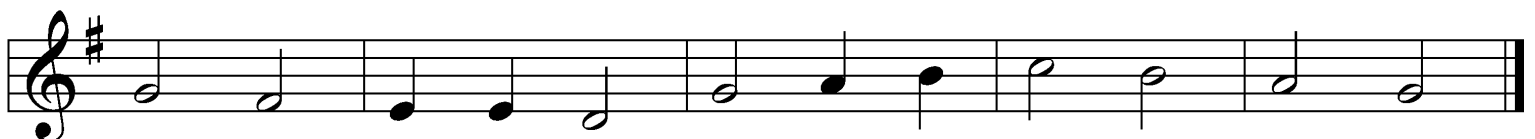
our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y  
doubts as - sail me. Re - mem - ber that I  
Lord, our Sav - ior, And, tru - ly griev - ing  
out all a - ges! Pre - serve it, for in



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion  
am but dust, And let my faith not fail me.  
for our sins, May prove by our be - hav - ior  
ev - 'ry place The world a - gainst it ra - ges.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to  
Your sup - per in this vale of tears Re - fresh - es  
That we are thank - ful for Your grace And day by  
Grant that this sac - ra - ment may be A bless - ed



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.  
me and stills my fears And is my price - less trea - sure.  
day may run our race, In ho - li - ness in - creas - ing.  
com - fort un - to me When liv - ing and when dy - ing.

### **Common Dismissal**

P: Now may this true body and blood. . .and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

### **Post-Communion Prayer (Based on Simeon's Song—Luke 2:29-32)**

P: Let us pray. Lord, now You let Your servants go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. Our own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel, the salvation which we have received in the body and blood of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

### **Benediction (Blessing) (Based on the Beatitudes—Luke 6:20-23)**

P: The Lord Jesus lifts up His eyes on you, His disciples, and says:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you  
on account of the Son of Man!

Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy,

for behold, great is your reward in heaven.”

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

### **Burning of the Palms**

*Traditionally the Church has kept last year's palms from celebrating Palm Sunday, and then burned them on Transfiguration Sunday as we enter into Lent. These ashes are then used on Ash Wednesday. Today as we go forth with the last "alleluias" on our lips, we burn a small amount of palm leaves.*

### **Nehemiah 9: 1-2,16-17**

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. <sup>2</sup> And the Israelites separated themselves from all foreigners and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers.

<sup>16</sup> “...our fathers acted presumptuously and stiffened their neck and did not obey your commandments.<sup>17</sup> They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them.”

## Burying "Alleluia"

Burying the Alleluia is a custom dating back to at least the fifth century. On the Last Sunday before Lent, a scroll containing the word, "Alleluia" (Hebrew for "Praise the Lord"/ "Praise Yah(-weh)" was removed from the church. A written record from the 15th century describes French choirboys carrying a small coffin containing the word "Alleluia" out of the church in procession, and then burying it in the churchyard. We will sing a farewell hymn to "Alleluia", and then Pastor will "bury" the wooden plank in a hidden pond. (This same pond still holds



an Alleluia written in Ukrainian which was buried in 2022 to mark the beginning of the war. It also has held boards with Palestine & Israel written on them since part way into the current outbreak of war that began October 7, 2023. These board will remain there until the wars end).

## Closing Hymn

### Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

LSB 924



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's  
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion  
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,



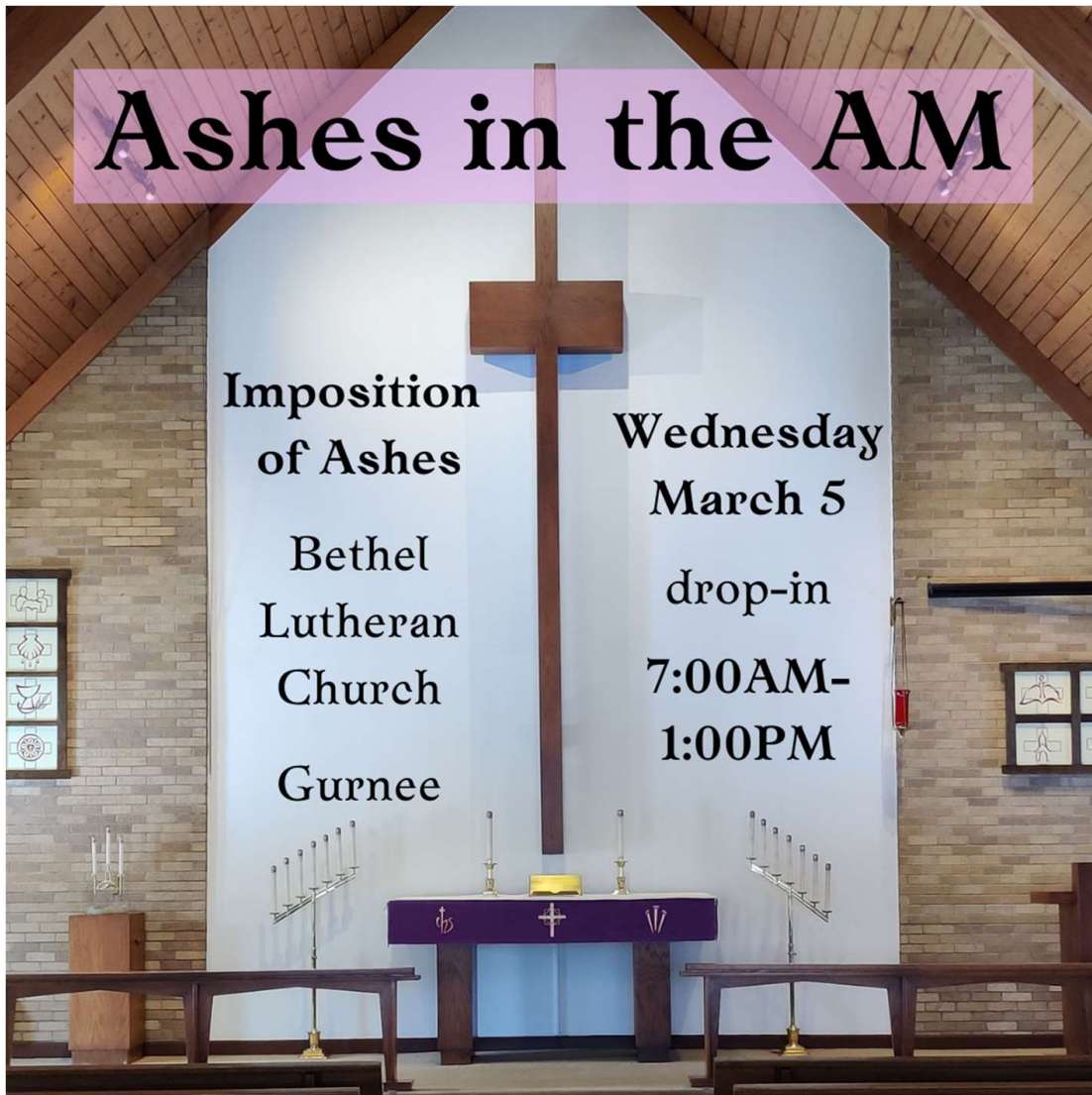
Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;  
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,  
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.  
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

# **ASH WEDNESDAY SUNRISE DEVOTION LIVE ON BETHEL'S FACEBOOK PAGE WED, MAR 5, 6:00-6:30AM**

*Pastor Squires will share a devotion live from the "Alleluia Pond"  
where he'll bury this year's Alleluia*



## **ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES MARCH 5**

**SOUP/SALAD SUPPER – 5PM  
WORSHIP (IN SANCTUARY) – 6:30PM**