



February 11, 2024
Transfiguration of Our Lord
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA)

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES
RINGING OF BELL
WELCOME

The people of God stand. Please respond with the words printed in bold.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the
power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to
you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with
Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts
through faith. **Amen.**

Hymn *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Chorus

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You,
I want to see You.

Verse

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.

Chorus

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You,
I want to see You.

Verse

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.

Bridge

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy;
Holy, holy, holy,
I want to see You.

GREETING (*ELW p.184*)

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts.

Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The people of God are seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

A reading from Second Kings.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 50:1-6

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.**

⁵“Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause,
for it is God who is judge.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

A reading from Second Corinthians.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people of God stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* (ELW 172)



GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:2-9

Mark’s gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus’ followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God’s glory manifest in the beloved Son.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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

The people of God are seated.

SERMON

The people of God stand.

THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD (ELW 614)

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev-er be dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend;

Refrain



but then the Ho-ly Spir-it re-vives my soul a-gain.
you can tell the love of Je-sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re-fuse to lend.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Each petition ends with, "Lord, in your mercy." Those worshipping respond with the hymn, "O Lord Hear My Prayer" (ELW 751).

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O Lord Hear My Prayer" (ELW 751). It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system has the lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me. or The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God." The second system has the lyrics: "O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people of God are seated.

INSTALLATION OF CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS

The following people have been elected to positions of leadership on the church council: Kent Kaufman, Cindy Knoop, Howard Moss, Kristen Van Scoyoc, Courtney Heid, Jon Twing, Dale Swenson, Jessica Fonseca, and Pat Cassabaum. We also welcome financial secretary Claudia Beyer. We give thanks to all of you for your willingness to serve.

In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these sisters and brothers will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church. You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world. You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The people of God stand.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.
Amen.

OFFERING

We are grateful for your gifts and they are needed to continue the work of the church. For those worshipping online, options on ways to give are found on our website (www.wbbethany.org). Thank you! After the offering is gathered, the people of God stand and sing the hymn below as the gifts are brought forward.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)*

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p.191).

**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.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Shine, Jesus, Shine (ELW 671)*

Refrain

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;
blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -
dark-ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, 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.

Refrain

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

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950
Music: Graham Kendrick

Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE
99 10 10 33 and refrain

SENDING

Go in peace. Share the good news of great joy for all people! You are loved!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Ministers of:	Today	February 18
Music	Jill Barnhart	Jill Barnhart
Proclamation (Lector)	Phil Hougen	Mike Fryauf
Minister of Technology	Cole Crosthwaite & Tate Frantz	Dave Poppen
Worship (Altar Care)	Cindy Knoop	Cindy Knoop
Ministers of Hospitality	Wayne Frauenholtz	Sue & Del Hughes

This worship is being streamed live via Facebook and will be posted to our Website and X (formerly Twitter). The camera captures anyone in the first few pews of our worship space and beyond extending to the altar.



Thank you for worshipping with us today. Just as Jesus welcomed the stranger, we believe all are welcome here. Please join us again next week. For more information about our life together in Christ, visit: www.wbbethany.org

LENT SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 21 DINNER @ 6:15 PM PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS WORSHIP @ 7:00 PM	FEBRUARY 28 DINNER @ 6:15 PM PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS WORSHIP @ 7:00 PM
MARCH 6 DINNER @ 6:15 PM PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS WORSHIP @ 7:00 PM	MARCH 20 DINNER @ 6:15 PM PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS WORSHIP @ 7:00 PM

WE INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US!

THERE WILL BE NO ACTIVITIES MARCH 13

*Ash Wednesday
Worship*

*February 14th
7:00 Pm*

(Also streamed live on facebook)



sunday school with Bethany Lutheran Church


Preschool - Grade 3

February 4, 11, 25

8:30 - 9:15 AM
WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM

OUR mission

*To grow so deep in Christ
through worship, education, and
fellowship that we celebrate by
reaching out to others.*



Southeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Stay up to date with happenings from around the Southeastern Iowa Synod by signing up for the weekly E-News. Visit: <https://seiasynod.org/follow-us/>

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