

# The Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 26, 2017



## BETHANY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joel F. Kluender

Vicki Fronk, Preschool Teacher

[bethanylutherangibsonia.com](http://bethanylutherangibsonia.com)

[pastorjoelkluender@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoelkluender@gmail.com)

Office: 724-443-3890/Cell: (724) 810-1813

5155 N. Pioneer Rd., Gibsonia (Hampton Twp.), PA 15044

OPENING HYMN — #95—*How Good, Lord, to Be Here*

STAND

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit



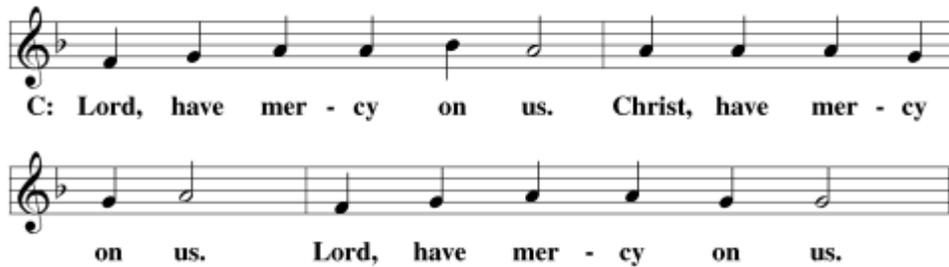
CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther al - mighty, O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray:

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 2:1-12 (HCSB)

<sup>1</sup> The time had come for the LORD to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elijah and Elisha were traveling from Gilgal, <sup>2</sup> and Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD is sending me on to Bethel."

But Elisha replied, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

<sup>3</sup> Then the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said, "Do you know that the LORD will take your master away from you today?"

He said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

<sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; the LORD is sending me to Jericho."

But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

<sup>5</sup> Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho came up to Elisha and said, "Do you know that the LORD will take your master away from you today?"

He said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

<sup>6</sup> Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD is sending me to the Jordan."

But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on.

<sup>7</sup> Fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood facing them from a distance while the two of them stood by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the waters, which parted to the right and left. Then the two of them crossed over on dry ground. <sup>9</sup> After they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken from you."

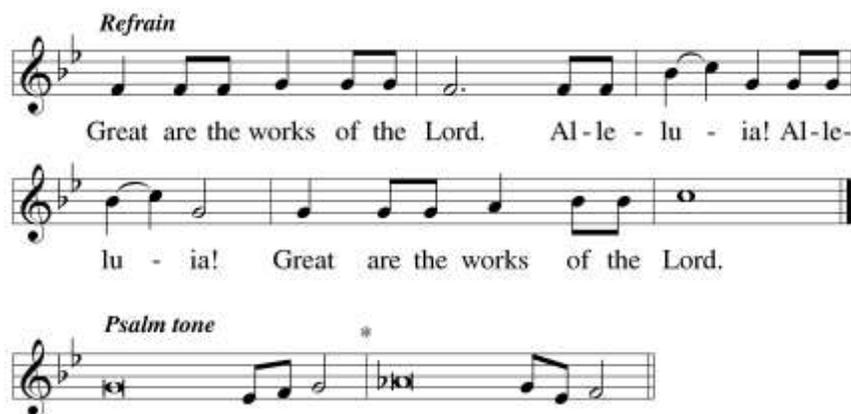
So Elisha answered, "Please, let me inherit two shares of your spirit."

<sup>10</sup> Elijah replied, "You have asked for something difficult. If you see me being taken from you, you will have it. If not, you won't."

<sup>11</sup> As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire with horses of fire suddenly appeared and separated the two of them. Then Elijah went up into heaven in the whirlwind. <sup>12</sup> As Elisha watched, he kept crying out, "My father, my father, the chariots and horsemen of Israel!" Then he never saw Elijah again. He took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2



Refrain

Why do the nations conspire\*  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers  
gather together against the LORD\*  
and against his Anointed One.

Refrain

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;\*  
 the Lord scoffs at them.  
 Then he rebukes them in his anger  
 and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,\*  
 "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."  
 I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:\*  
 He said to me, "You are my Son;  
 today I have become your Father."  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
 and to the Holy Spirit,  
 as it was in the beginning,\*  
 is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Refrain*

SECOND LESSON

*2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (HCSB)*

<sup>3</sup>But if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For we are not proclaiming ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your slaves because of Jesus. <sup>6</sup>For God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud. This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Alleluia. (*Mark 9:7b*)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

*Mark 9:2-9 (HCSB)*



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

<sup>2</sup>After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up on a high mountain by themselves to be alone. He was transformed in front of them, <sup>3</sup>and His clothes became dazzling—extremely white as no launderer on earth could whiten them. <sup>4</sup>Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it's good for us to be here! Let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—<sup>6</sup>because he did not know what he should say, since they were terrified.

<sup>7</sup>A cloud appeared, overshadowing them, and a voice came from the cloud:

This is My beloved Son;  
 listen to Him!

<sup>8</sup>Then suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down from the mountain, He ordered them to tell no one what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLES CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.  
 The third day he rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
 From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy Christian Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY — #97—*Down from the Mount of Glory*

SERMON (*sermon text 2 Corinthians 4:5,6*)

*"Why We Celebrate the Lutheran Reformation"*

STAND

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

C: 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.

(BE SEATED)

HYMN — #242—*Oh, that I had a Thousand Voices*

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



HYMN — #323—*Almighty Father, Bless the Word*

# News And Notes—Bethany Lutheran Church

## THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

Thanks to those who served their Lord as musicians and ushers this morning. Thank you, also, to elder Harry Jacob for reading, and President Marty Kurth for leading our liturgy in Pastor Kluender's absence this morning.

## SECRET PALS LUNCHEON TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Ladies, please join your secret pals after worship today for a luncheon at King's Restaurant. Thank you!

## WELS SCHOOL OF OUTREACH, SATURDAY, MARCH 18 — PLEASE CONSIDER GOING WITH PASTOR

The second session of our WELS School of Outreach takes place on Saturday, March 18th, in Strongsville, Ohio. Pastor Kluender will be going to discuss our outreach strategy with our consultants. Please, anyone who is willing to travel with and work with Pastor, please let him know. The cost for the day is the same regardless of the number who attend, and the cost has already been paid. THANK YOU.

## MLS CONCERT CHOIR AT BETHANY SUNDAY, MARCH 26 — HOST HOMES NEEDED

On Sunday, March 26th, the Michigan Lutheran Seminary Concert Choir will be singing at our Sunday worship service. This is an amazing privilege for such a small congregation as Bethany. Erica Griepentrog and Kathy Stadler have graciously agreed to help Pastor as coordinators for their visit. The choir is seeking hosting in Bethany members' homes for the 37 students and 4 adults. Please talk to Erica or Kathy ASAP if you are able to help with hosting.

## BETHANY SPONSORED MOVIE AT CINEMARK NORTH HILLS THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 7:30 P.M.

Bethany is sponsoring a showing of the new documentary movie on the life and legacy of Martin Luther at 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 30th at the Cinemark North Hills Theater. We need to sell or give away 42 more tickets to confirm the showing with the theater so please go to <https://www.tugg.com/events/a-return-to-grace-luther-s-life-and-legacy-vqvqg> and purchase your tickets for yourselves and friends. Alternatively, contact Pastor Kluender to help. Please feel free to offer tickets to your non-member friends and family and we will make sure you are reimbursed. THANK YOU

## APRIL 1 PARENTS' DAY OUT — ALL HANDS ON DECK!

We are currently planning a Parents' Day Out for Saturday, April 1st, 10am—2pm. Please consider volunteering your time, talents or treasures to support this outreach. Speak with Pastor or Vicki Fronk to let us know in what capacity you are able to assist. The more the merrier. THANK YOU.

## REFORMATION 500 WORSHIP SERVICE — SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, COLUMBUS, OHIO

On Saturday, November 4th, at 3:00 P.M., a joint Reformation Festival service of our Ohio Conference WELS churches will take place at St. Paul's in Columbus. After the worship there will be a fellowship meal provided by St. Paul's (a cost per person will be collected at the meal). Bethany is planning to go as a congregation so please let Pastor know if you are interested. We will be investigating the possibility of renting large van / mini-bus for the trip. Join us!

## LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP

In Sunday's worship, 32 people were fed and strengthened by the Word of God and 25 people took communion.

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	March 1	2	3	4	5
	Gospel of John Bible Study 7 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship 7 PM			<b>Men's Fellowship</b> Book & Breakfast 8:30—10:00 AM	9:00a Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 10:30a Worship

Serving next Sunday: Altar: Kluender; Greeter: Busch Family; Ushers: Team C/F