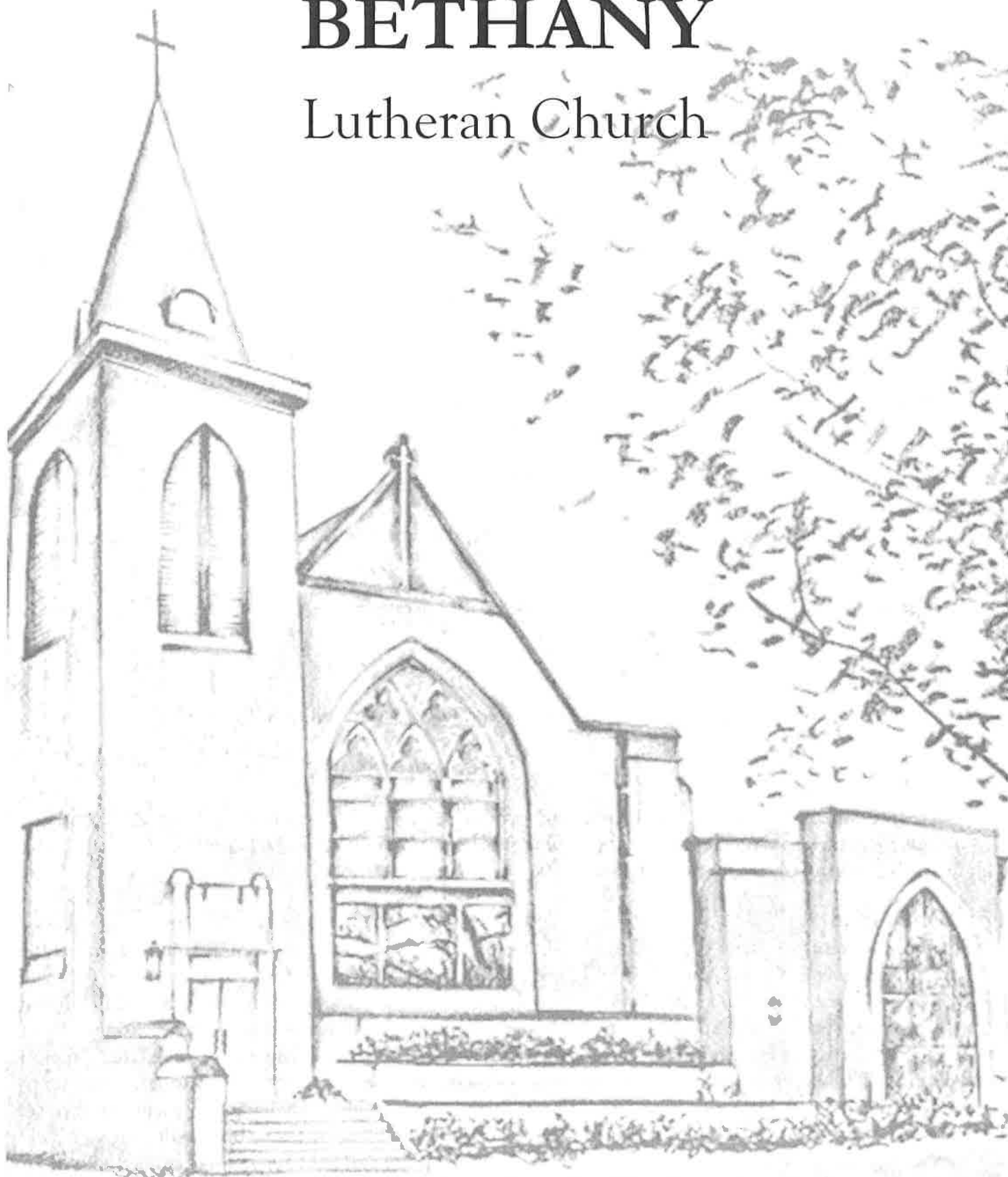


BETHANY

Lutheran Church



The Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 19, 2023

WELCOME TO BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we gather to hear God's holy Word and celebrate the meal of Holy Communion. We are blessed by your presence. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome all God's people to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve.

Should you have no church home, you are invited to consider Bethany. If you have questions for the pastor or church office, please call at 630.879.3444 or visit our website at www.bethanybatavia.org. Welcome!

Assistance in Worship

For those who find it difficult to stand or prefer to sit during any part of the service, please feel free to remain seated.

Children's Resources

Children's worship bulletins are available in the narthex and from the ushers.

Nursery

While not yet staffed, the nursery is open for parents who may find it helpful. The nursery is located on the sanctuary level, where you will find a changing table, rocking chair and some toys. You can still hear the worship service through a speaker in the room. Ask an usher if you need assistance.

Cell Phones and Pagers

Please silence all cell phones and pagers. Thank you.

Coffee Hour

Thank you to the Piccony Family for hosting Coffee Hour after service today in Fellowship Hall. Please join us.

Holy Communion

In Holy Communion the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. All are invited to the table where Christ himself is host. If you desire to be baptized, or to learn more about Holy Baptism, please speak to the pastor.

As We Gather:

The Transfiguration of Jesus is an odd story, but a welcome one. Who has not yearned to go up the mountain and bask in the presence of God's Son? In moments of darkness and despair, we long for relief and escape—to see the dazzling light and breathe the fresh air. Peter, James, and John are gifted with just such a moment. God's voice speaks, affirming Jesus' identity as the Beloved Son. Not surprisingly, Peter wants to stay there. He even offers to set up camp so that they can remain forever above the dusty fray of daily life. This, however, is not why Jesus has brought them up the mountain. He has brought them up to send them down again. But he does not send them alone. He goes with them, banishing their fear, face set toward Jerusalem. We go up the mountain today and bask in the glory of Jesus, but we do not stay here. We are called to follow him into this world, bearing his gifts of life and light for a world in need.

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDE: There is a Balm in Gilead
Tell Me the Old, Old Story

Arr. Kidwell
Arr. Powell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
You have made your presence known, and shown us all we need to see.
Yet, even so, we have not loved you with our whole heart;
And we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us
and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

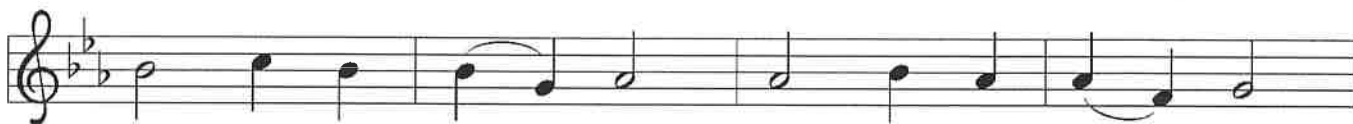
C **Amen.**



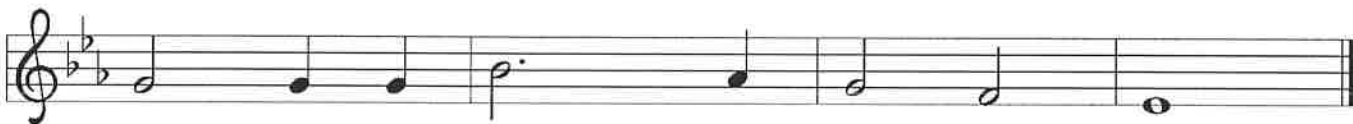
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright 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!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

APOSTOLIC 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



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



B Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



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



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.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son
you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah,
and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son,
you foreshadowed our adoption as your children.
Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

We sit.

+ WORD +

We sit.

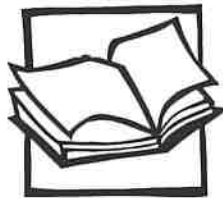
FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12–18

The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**



SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16–21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor Jeffrey G Mikyska
Matthew 17: 1-9

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY: How Good, Lord, to Be Here

ELW #315



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
 we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
 we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
 but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

+ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM +

NORMAN JOHN FRANKOWSKI

FEBRUARY 19, 2023

PRESENTATION

Pastor:

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, which is the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

The Baptismal Party is invited to approach the font.

Pastor:

Would **Emily and Anders** please present their God-child for Baptism.

Sponsors:

We present **Norman John** for baptism.

Pastor: **Edward and Amy**, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have **Norman John** baptized into Christ?

Parents: **We do.**

Pastor: As you bring **Norman John** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with certain responsibilities:

- † to live with him among God's faithful people,
- † bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
- † teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
- † place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that **Norman John** may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.
- † Do you promise to help **Norman John** grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: **We do.**

Pastor: **Emily and Anders**, do you promise to nurture **Norman John** in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help **Norman John** live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: **We do.**

The pastor questions the Parents and Sponsors and then the congregation.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support **Norman John**, and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

Congregation: **We do.**

We stand.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces of evil that defy God?

Congregation: **We renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Congregation: **We renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Congregation: **We renounce them.**

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

Congregation: 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.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

Congregation: 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Water may be poured into the font during the thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to life in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

We sit.

THE BAPTISM

Pastor: Norman John, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Parents and Sponsors: Amen

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Pastor: Let us pray: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The pastor lays on hands and prays for the newly baptized saying:

Sustain **Norman John** with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The pastor marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized and says:

Pastor: **Norman John**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: **Norman John**, let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Congregation: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY

The pastor leads the congregation in prayer for the family.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon family & friends of our baptized. Let them ever rejoice in the gift(s) you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for **Norman John**. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with him the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

WELCOME

Pastor: Let us welcome **Norman John**.

Congregation: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing his creative and redeeming word to all the world.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A Embolden your church as it witnesses to the majesty and mercy of your Son. Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors. Move us to share our stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness; may our lives proclaim your greatness. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley. Bless the work of conservation organizations and protect vital habitats (*locally threatened waters or lands may be named*). Support the work of disaster relief agencies around the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Guide and give wisdom to all in authority: our mayor, Jeff Schielke and local leaders, our governor, J.B. Pritzker and state legislators, our president, Joe Biden and national legislators. Bring freedom and justice to all nations. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Give shelter to those lacking safe homes. Spur communities to work for fair housing for all. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings do not keep out dangerous cold or heat; accompany with your touch those who are homebound, sick, or isolated (*especially*). Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Make us eager to receive your Word in scripture. Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors; make us confident to follow the way of the cross. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A Receive our thanksgiving for the holy ones who have guided us in faithfulness and gathered even the unlikely as your people. With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
Trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+ MEAL +

We sit.

OFFERING MUSIC: Shine, Jesus, Shine

Arr. Jack Schrader

Words and Music, Graham Kendrick

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us;
Shine on me, shine on me.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me. Refrain.

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story;
Shine on me, shine on me. Refrain.

We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—
our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

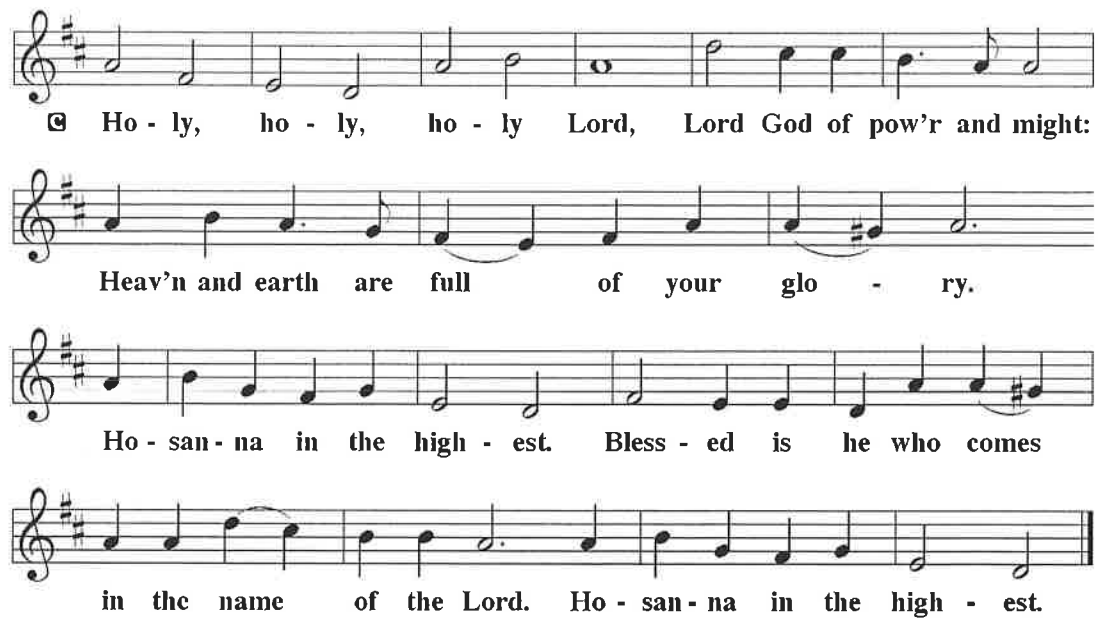
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places
offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord.
Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and make your voice known to
us. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.
 By your powerful word you created all things.
 Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.
 Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
 He is your Beloved, sent to reveal your glory to the world.
 In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.
 Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, 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.
 Remembering, therefore,
 his preaching and healing,
 his transfiguration,
 his dying and rising,
 and his promise to come again,
 we await that day when all the universe
 will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus has taught us:

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.

P These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P All are welcome to God's Banquet Feast! Come, for all is now ready!

We sit.

LAMB OF GOD



☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink. Gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request and for those desiring it, non-alcoholic wine cups are in the center of the tray.

MUSIC FOR HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW #834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



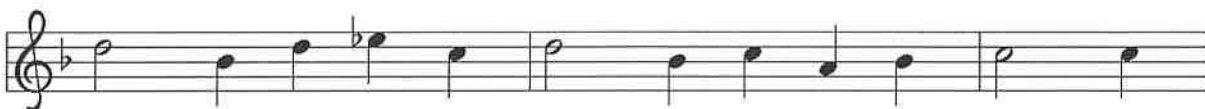
true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C **Amen.**

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart,
and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ.
Now send us forth to be your people in the world,
and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore;
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: Alleluia! Song of Gladness

ELW #318

Antiphon

Robert Buckley Farlee

*Choir: Alleluia, alleluia. Enclose and seal up the word,
Alleluia alleluia. Let it remain in the secret of your heart,
Alleluia alleluia. Until the appointed time.
You shall say it with great joy when that day comes. Alleluia.*

(Hymn continues on the next page.)

Congregation:



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: I will Exalt in the Lord

Arr. Lani Smith

Farewell to Alleluia

At Bethany, we keep the ancient practice of fasting from singing or speaking *alleluia* during Lent. It is helpful to consider the *whys*, *whens*, and *hows* of this practice.

Why bury the Alleluia?

Based on the Hebrew word, *hallelu yah*, meaning “praise the Lord,” *alleluia* has been a word of great praise to God in the life of the church. Because of the penitential character of the Lenten season in the Western church, singing or saying the word *alleluia* has historically been suspended during Lent’s forty days. The omission of *alleluia* during Lent goes back at least to the fifth century in the Western church. The custom of actually bidding it farewell, however, developed in the Middle Ages. The hymn “Alleluia, song of gladness” (ELW 318) contains a translation of an eleventh-century Latin text that compares an *alleluia*-less Lent to the exile of the Israelites in Babylon. The text then anticipates the joy of Easter when glad *alleluias* will return in all their heavenly splendor.

Along with a sung farewell to *alleluia*, Bethany has embraced the practice of physically burying (or putting away) the *alleluia*. This year a banner of *alleluias* is displayed and then “buried”.

When do we bury the alleluia?

At Bethany the Alleluia is bid farewell on the Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday. This is the last Sunday when *alleluia* will be used until Easter Sunday. After the singing of the hymn, “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”, the banner will be folded and packed away and remain under the altar for the Lenten season as a reminder of its absence from our liturgy.

When and how do we resurrect the alleluia?

On Easter Sunday the *alleluia* will be carried in a festive procession during the Processional Hymn replete with festive *alleluias*.

A special word of gratitude to Ed Schalk for his work in designing and constructing our Alleluia chest.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister
Owen Stahl, Assisting Minister
Alan Spear, Organist
Lane Stahl, Reader
Doug Boehm, Dale Howard, A/V
Norma Pieratt, Ruth Beck, Altar Guild
Kiera Piccony, Acolyte
Ralph Beck, Jon Habegger, Ken Holt, Ushers
Owen Stahl, Margie Schuett, Andrea Gustafson,
Communion Asst's
Festival Choir

STAFF

Jeffrey Mikyska, Senior Pastor
Mark Waldron, Director of Music
Alan Spear, Organist
Darlene Hutchens, Church Administrator
Susan Jarocki, Administrative Assistant
Ed McQuillan, Financial Secretary
Emma Hess, Youth Director

YOUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Todd Toles, President
Alan Spear, Vice-President
Doug Boehm, Secretary
Steve Mickelson, Treasurer
Karol Clark
Aidan Garrity
Brad Hirt

Pastor Jeff Mikyska
Jackie Page
Kathy Richmond
Mia Rusev
Marsha Schuster

If you have questions or concerns for members of the Church Council you're invited to speak with them personally or via email to council@bethanybatavia.org.

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LET US PRAY

We welcome into God's family through the waters of Baptism:

Norman John, son of Edward and Amy Freedlund. Sponsors are Emily Michalak and Anders Freedlund.

We pray for all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Mary Bradtmueller, **Diane Garland**, Debbie Garrison, Robert Granquist, Marcia Hanlon, Dolores Hoffman, Deb Hruby, Anna Jackson, Karin Johnston, Luke & Diane Land, Bill Lechnick, Bob Novy, Louise Pruitt, Kathy Richmond, JoAnn Sargent, Marilyn Stanley, George & Shirley Striedl, Pat Sullivan

Please pray for those who are homebound and those in a care facility:

Mark Anderson	Silverado Memory Care, St Charles
Lois Elfstrom	Aurora, IL
Bill Keele	Heritage Woods
Pam Klingberg	Heritage Woods
Wanda Krentz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Mildred Miller	Reserve of Geneva, Geneva
Rhonda Nelson	Batavia, IL
Joan Olson	Michaelsen Health Center, Holmstad
Pat Quast	Asbury Gardens
Jay & Carol Wierz	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad

Please pray for all those serving in the military, especially those who are connected to our congregation.

Please pray for our family and friends:

Bonnie & Jim Hines	Parents of Suzanne Grashorn
Tina Motter	Sister of Jackie Page
Mary Hughs	Sister of Jackie Page
Cindy Weinert	Sister-in-Law of Pam Klingberg
Dottie	Friend of Paulette Smigo
Diane Sharp	Friend of Ed Schalk
Lizzie Bork	Friend of Julie Howard
Anne Kaar	Daughter of Kris Kaar
Sydney Mowen	Friend of Lane Stahl
Nancy & Mike	Sister & Brother-in-Law of Karol Clark
Steve Ziemer	Friend of Kathy Richmond
Jeffrey Campbell	Nephew of Nan Phillips
Kate and Family	Friend of John & Karol Clark
Damon Schultz	Son-in-Law of Shyla Carbone
Sue S.	Friend of Bob & Sue Novy
Nicole	Friend of Linda Sullivan
Alice Hendrikson	Friend of Lynn & Bill Dreymiller
Bigby Suddarth	Friend of Allie Mikyska
Maureen Scollon	Friend of Lois Benson & Dottie White
Lauren Hanson	Supervisor of Janice Reynolds
Jaylene Lumppp	Acquaintance of Janice Reynolds
Pam Paszotta	Sister of Tom & Dee Schuman
Senaida Stafford	Niece of Tom & Dee Schuman
Emily	Friend of Tom & Dee Schuman
Chris Sidler	Friend of Luke & Diane Land

Lisa
Lynn Krambeer Stoddard
Heather
Gretchen VanKempema
Loy Williams
Ryan Anderson
Linda Raish
Vic and Anne Lee
Lynne Morrow
Kenzie
Rebecca and family
Floyd Anderson
Barbara Garrison
Paul Mazen
Bonnie Palshis
Heather Staudacher, Dr. Mark Staudacher & family,
Phil
Kathy Dee's Family
Mary Jo Benstein's Family
Susan Sheley
Bonnie
Carole W.
DeAnne & Gary
Brad Blue
Megan Campbell
Diane Ekstam Johnson
Tammy English
Jerry Martin
Teri Prokes
Tony Prokes
Kelli Robertson
Wolfgang Smailus
Ed Stahl

Friend of Beth Richard
Cousin of Pastor Jeff & Gail Mikyska
Friend of Schuman Family
Daughter of Ann Holch
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch
Son of Aaron Anderson
Friend of Kathy Richmond & Sandy Conn
Friends of Debbie Garrison
Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff & Gail
Friend of Katie Robertson
God-Daughter of Beth Lawniczak
Beth Richard's Father
Bill Garrison's mother

Sister-in-Law of Doug Boehm
Friend/Coworker of Beth Richard
Lynn Dreymler's brother
Teri Figura
Teri Figura
Daughter of Louise Pruitt
Friend of Pastor Jeff
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch
Niece & Nephew of Shirley Grant
Friend of Lois Benson
Granddaughter of Scotty & Maureen Scollon
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam
Daughter of Shirley Streidl
Father of Nicki McVey
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy
Daughter of Diane Schalk
Brother-in-law of Marty Offutt Gruber
Father of Dan Stahl

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:

Mary Rasori
Dr. Mark Bangert
Howard
Virginia Clark-Lorenz
Martha Nelson
Judy Morrison

Sister-in-Law of Brian & Tara Shannon
Friend and Colleague of Pastor Jeff Mikyska
Grandfather of Andrew & Leah Macaione
Sister/Sister-in-Law of John & Karol Clark
Sister of Bob Nelson
Sister of Bonnie Hines/Aunt of Suzanne Grashorn

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

Sunday, February 19

9am.....	Worship – Scout Sunday – Baptism.....	Sanctuary
10am.....	Coffee Hour.....	Fellowship Hall
10:30am.....	Sunday School.....	Ministry Center, 2 nd Floor

Monday, February 20

8:30am.....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
9am.....	Counters.....	Conference Room
7pm.....	Troop 6 Leaders.....	Lower Level

Tuesday, February 21

8:30am.....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
9am.....	Quilters.....	Fellowship Hall
6:30pm.....	DV Support Group.....	Youth Room
6:30pm.....	Girls BSA Troop 6.....	Vlahn Room/Gym

Wednesday, February 22

8:30am.....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
10am.....	Senior Advocacy Group.....	Library
11am.....	Ash Wednesday Lenten Service.....	Sanctuary
1pm.....	Organ Rehearsal – Holly Herber.....	Sanctuary
7pm.....	Men’s Basketball.....	Ministry Center Gym
7pm.....	Ash Wednesday Lenten Service.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, February 23

8:30am.....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
6pm.....	Bell Choir.....	Balcony
7pm.....	Boy Scout Troop 6.....	Ministry Center Gym/ Vlahn Room
7pm.....	Viljan Lodge.....	Fellowship Hall/Kitchen
7pm.....	Festival Choir.....	Sanctuary

Friday, February 24

8:30am.....	Bethany Walking Group.....	Ministry Center Gym
5pm.....	Community Supper.....	Fellowship Hall/Kitchen

Saturday, February 25

7:30am.....	Men’s Basketball.....	Ministry Center Gym
10am.....	Al-Anon.....	Library
10am.....	Al-Ateen.....	Library
8pm.....	AA.....	Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 26

9am.....	Worship.....	Sanctuary
10am.....	Coffee Hour.....	Fellowship Hall
10:30am.....	Sunday School.....	Ministry Center, 2 nd Floor
2:30pm.....	Hesed House Prep.....	Kitchen
4:30pm.....	Hesed House Serving.....	Hesed House
	Family Emergency Shelter	