

**Bethel Lutheran Church**  
**Transfiguration Sunday, Year A**  
**Sunday, February 15, 2026**



Rev. Diane Martinson  
Music & Choir Director: Rowen Erickson  
**Worship Volunteers**  
**Assisting Minister:** Doug Hanson  
**Reader:** Sharon Hilla  
**Alter Guild:** Dawn Schroeder  
**Communion Assistant:** Dar Schuurmans  
**Ushers:** Charlie & Sharon Hilla  
**Video Tech:** Cindy Michalski

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

**GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN**   *O God, Our Help in Ages Past***Cranberry 632**

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou-sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm-y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last  
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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## **CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in ☣ Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

**THIS IS THE FEAST****Cranberry pg 101**

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless-ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

*Refrain*

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

*Refrain*

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. Amen.**

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

**WORD**

## FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18

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

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The 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. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. 18 Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 2 (read responsively by verse)

1 Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

**2 The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,**

3 "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast their cords from us."

**4 He who sits in the heavens laughs;**

**the LORD has them in derision.**

5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath and terrify them in his fury, saying,

**6 "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."**

7 I will tell of the decree of the LORD:

He said to me, "You are my son;

today I have begotten you.

**8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage**

**and the ends of the earth your possession.**

9 You shall break them with a rod of iron

and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

**10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise;**

**be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

11 Serve the LORD with fear;

with trembling

**12 kiss his feet,**

**or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way,**

**for his wrath is quickly kindled.**

**Happy are all who take refuge in him.**

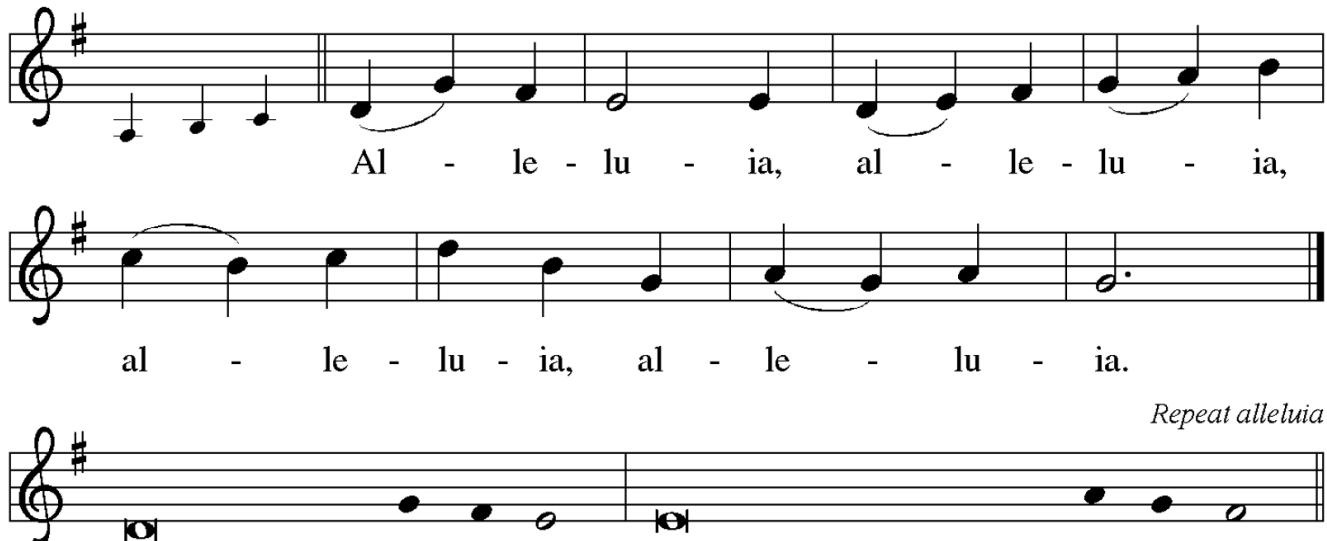
#### **SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21**

16 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.

17 For 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." 18 We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 So 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. 20 First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." 8 And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. 9 As 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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY *How Good Lord to Be Here*

Cranberry 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

## APOSTLES'S 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 THE PEOPLE**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflicts. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**MEAL**

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of majesty,

**no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.**

**Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;  
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;  
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels, 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, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

On that night when he gave himself up for us, as he sat at the table and broke bread with his friends, he said: "Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Remember me each time you do this."

After they had eaten, he took the cup, and said: "Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you—the beginning of a new relationship with God." Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, O God, that we may experience the presence of the Word-made-flesh—Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit in us that we may be one body with him—living out his ministry in the world today and every day. This we pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

LAMB OF GOD

Cranberry pgs 112-113

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 HYMN

## Beautiful Savior

## Cranberry 838



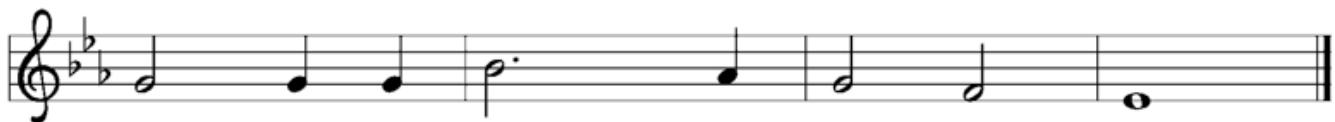
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - - ior, Lord of the na - - tions,



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

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray, Radiant God,  
**we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.**  
**In the sacrament of his body and blood**  
**you have drawn us to your heart.**  
**Send us from this table with delight,**  
**that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,**  
**and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

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

**SENDING**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BENEDICTION**

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Cranberry 858



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing  
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;  
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - - ple draw near,  
 Have you not seen all that is need - - ful has been  
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 sent by his gra - cious or - - dain - ing?  
 if with his love he be - friend you.  
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

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### Funding for Mission & Budget

Monthly Receipts through 2/9/26	\$ 4,944.00
Monthly Budget Expenses:	\$18,843.00
YTD Receipts through 1/31/26:	\$ 22,103.00

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### The Bethel Weekly

**Ash Wednesday:** is February 18th. Worship will be at Bethel at 1pm, please see the sign up sheet in the hallway to help with this service. If you can not attend, there is a service available at Resurrection at 6:30

**Lenten Midweek Worship:** We will need Worship Leaders and Ushers for the 6:30pm services throughout Lent. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway.

**Easter Flowers:** Order forms are now available in the lounge for ordering Easter Lilies or Tulips. Please note that the deadline for ordering is Sunday March 8th. There are a few large print order forms available. Let Ashley know if we run out and you need one.

**Palm Sunday:** Please see the sign up sheet in the hallway to volunteer for Palm Sunday Brunch and delivery to in-home members.

**Fellowship Hour:** Please, if you are able to host a fellowship hour in February or March sign up in the hallway.

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