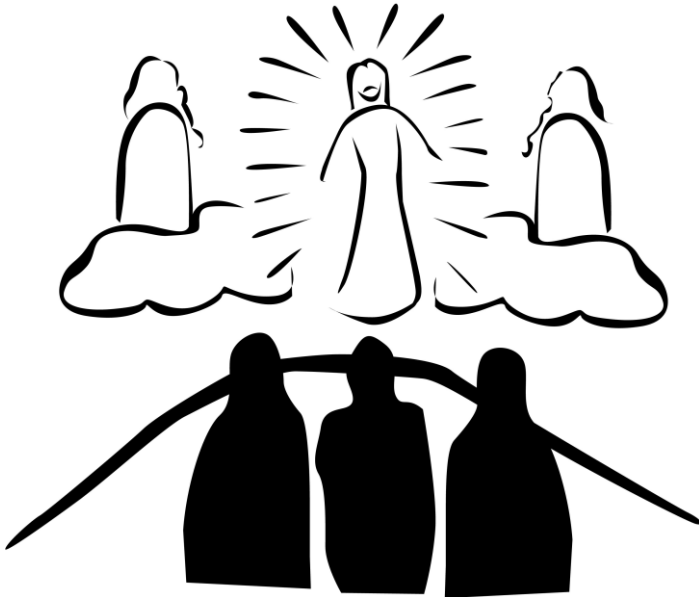


Welcome to Worship

at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
reconciling in Christ congregation



Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 2025

10:30 am

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Mike Button

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

Guest Pianist: Karla Lake

330 Ferry Street; Easton, PA 18042-4500

Phone: 610-258-6119

E-mail : Admin@stjohnseaston.org

www.stjohnseaston.org

Statement of Welcome

*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;
for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. — Galatians 3:28*

As a community of God striving to be open to all people, we at St. John's Lutheran Congregation believe that the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We welcome all to join us as we struggle to better understand the mysteries of God's teachings. We are challenged by Christ to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of race, age, gender, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual/affectional orientation, national origin, or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people.

St. John's Lutheran Congregation is a place for each person to shine in their own unique gifts.

Statement of Mission

St. John's Lutheran Church is a downtown, community-oriented, congregation of Christians. We worship God, strive to welcome, and wholly accept everyone, and reach out with and in God's love.

~

Communion is a time we invite all baptized Christians who believe that our Lord Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament. If this is your belief, there are instructions to follow at the time of Communion later in the bulletin.

Service Notes:

- (asterisk) indicates, please stand as you are able.
- Page # indicates the front of the hymnal is used . . .
- Hymn # indicates the back of the Hymnal is used . . .

Hymn Book Abbreviations:

ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book
WOV – With One Voice
ACS – All Creation Sings

Gathering

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

Welcome

Prelude

“Fairest Lord Jesus” - arr. F. Bock

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin . . .

Merciful God,

C: You speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

ACS # 1100 “*O Beauty Ever Ancient*”

***Greeting**

- page 98

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.

***Kyrie**

- page 98

***Canticle of Praise**

“*Glory to God*”

- page 99

*Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray. Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Children's Chat

Word

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

First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been

commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 99

¹ The Lord is king; let the people tremble.
The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

² **The Lord, great in Zion,
is high above all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;
God is the Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's
footstool;
God is the Holy One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among
those who call upon your name, O Lord,
they called upon you, and you answered them,**

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

**⁸ O Lord our God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their
evil deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's holy
hill;
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness,
¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of
Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside.
¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when
they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still
there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day
whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when
one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the
Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And
all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as
though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same
image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the
Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in
this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the
shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to
falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we
commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of
God.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*** Gospel**

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 9th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.

²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two

men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to

accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they

saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to

be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was

saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a

voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!”

³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – *The Rev. Mike Button*

*Hymn of the Day

ELW # 671 “*Shine, Jesus, Shine*”

*Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***Prayers of Intercession**

A: Let us pray. Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth. Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils. Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray for those close to our communities and in our hearts including *those we mention on our prayer list . . . and those we name aloud or in our hearts . . .* God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close and give courage to congregations starting new ministries. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people. We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen

*** The Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

(Ushers now proceed to the Altar to receive the offering plates...)

Offertory *“Seek Ye First The Kingdom of God” - arr. F Bock*

***Presentation of Gifts**

(Ushers now bring the offering plates forward.)

*Offertory Hymn

ACS# 914 *“Jesus, the Light of the World”* (v. 4)

4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.
Refrain
We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.
Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff is marked 'Refrain' and features a more rhythmic melody with eighth notes. The fourth staff concludes the piece with the final line of lyrics.

*Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen

*Great Thanksgiving

- page 107

* Preface

(Leader continues . . .)

***Holy, Holy, Holy** - page 108

***Thanksgiving at the Table** (*Leader continues . . .*)

***Lord's Prayer** - page 112

***Lamb of God** - page 112

***Invitation to Communion** - page 112

Holy Communion - *If you are baptized and believe that it is the real blood and body of Christ, we welcome you at the Lord's table.*

**At the invitation of the usher, please proceed to the front to receive communion. Communion is also available in your pew, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available upon request.*

Communion Hymns

ELW # 317 ***“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”***

ELW # 838 ***“Beautiful Savior”***

ELW # 637 ***“Holy God, Holy and Glorious”***

*Table Blessing

*Post Communion Hymn

ACS #984 *“May the God of Hope Go with Us”*

May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

***Prayer after Communion**

A: Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

C: Amen.

Sending

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

Announcements

***Blessing**

P: The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

C: Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

ELW # 318 “*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*”

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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4. "Holy God, Holy and Glorious" (ELW #637, Text: Susan R. Briebl © 2000 GIA Publications; Music © 2001 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress.)

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers . . .

Worship Assistant–Joyce Petty

Ushers – Cindy & Bob Black

Reader – Wayne Docker

Altar Guild – Barbara Horinko / Sylvia Orem

Video Team – Brad Thomas

This Week at St. John's March 2nd – March 9th

Today (3/2/25) – Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday, 10:30 am

Wednesday (3/5/25) – Prayer Group, 11:00 am – Hospitality Room

Wednesday (3/5/25) – Ash Wednesday

Mid-Day Ashes & Prayers, 12:00 pm

Wednesday (3/5/25) – Ash Wednesday Worship, 7:00 pm

Friday (3/7/25) – Gallery Art Drop-Off, 10-1:00 pm

Saturday (3/8/25) – Archives Comm., 10:00 am

Sunday (3/9/25) – Sunday School / Adult Forum, 9:00 am

Sunday (3/9/25) – First Sunday in Lent, 10:30 am

Week 8, 2/23/25 Attendance - 49

Last Sunday's Envelope / Plate Offering	\$2,616.00
Weekly amount needed to reach our Budget:	\$1,971.00
Year to Date Envelope / Plate Offering:	\$16,250.00
Difference Compared to Budget	+ \$2,453.00



Thank you, Karla Lake, for filling in for Jessica while she is out. How nice to hear a familiar tune . . .

Prayer List: Chuck, Vicki, Clark, Joe, Kara, Christine, Jessica, Helen, John, Janice, Donald, Nancy, Carolyn, Lois Anne, David, Grace, Donald, Barbara, Terry, Jeff, Debbie, Pastor Orem, Peggy, Tony, Ruth, Sharon, Sarah, Arlene, Joan, Karen, Our Homebound Family & Friends, the St. John's Call Committee, and Our Future Pastor

Join us for Prayer Group:
2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the Month
@ 11:00 am in the Hospitality Room

The Gallery at St. John's presents . . .

"Countryside Landscapes Knolls and Meadow"

*Show Opening ~ March 9th
(~runs thru April 13th~)*



Call to Artists:
*Works of Fine Art in any medium,
including Photography & Poetry
related to the show's theme.*

Deadline: March 7, 2025

Altar Flowers today are sponsored by
Petz & Karla Lake,
In remembrance of their parents . . .



**LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE
WHERE NEEDED MOST**

ELCA.org/disaster

In the face of disaster, Lutheran Disaster Response shares relief today and builds resilience for tomorrow. From wildfires to hurricanes to refugee crises, we are present when disaster strikes, ready to accompany communities through relief and recovery. We are also in communities when there are no impending disasters, preparing people to mitigate the effects of a disaster and enabling them to bounce back more quickly.

Lutheran Disaster Response relies upon strong partnerships with global companion churches, ELCA synods and Lutheran

social service organizations. We recognize that every disaster is local and responses need to be rooted in community. Our partners know their communities the best and can address local needs.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response share healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disaster. Together, we can reflect Christ's light and hope to our neighbors in their time of need. Give today to support survivors in the United States and around the world, wherever and whenever a disaster may strike.

Lutheran Disaster Response: Where needed most \$ _____ DDG0060

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to
Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center,
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009** and write "Where needed most" on
your check's memo line.



Join us, Wednesday, March 5th
at 12:00 noon for
Mid-Day Ashes and Prayers
in the Chapel.

~

Traditional Ash Wednesday Worship
also offered in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm.

NEPA Synod, Easton Cluster Churches invite you to . . .

Wednesday Lenten
Light Meals and Worship
(6:00 pm) (7:00 pm)



March 12th,

* St. Paul's Third Lutheran Church
(2561 Newburg Road, Easton)

March 19th,

* St. John's Lutheran Church
(330 Ferry Street, Easton)

[Be on the lookout for a sign-up for donations
of Soup, Bread, and Dessert]



Thank you . . . I just wanted to reach out and thank
everyone who called, sent cards,
notes of encouragement, etc . . .
during my time away having knee surgery. It
was very uplifting knowing that people care. I
continue to heal and feel stronger every day.
God Bless, Ruth Thomas