

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH and ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

***Our Mission: Learn God's Truth,
Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.***

TRANSFIGURATION of CHRIST

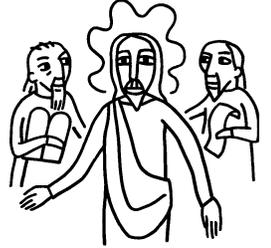
February 15, 2026, *Virtual Prayer and Preaching*

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**The CHURCH'S GATHERING**

**THANKSGIVING for BAPTISM**

We bless the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen**



With Peter, James, and John, met together on the holy mountain,  
we rejoice in the gift of Spirit in our baptismal life.

We bless you, O God, maker and ruler of all things.

Your voice thundered over the waters at creation.

**You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys  
to refresh and satisfy all living things.**

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom.

**In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock,  
and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.**

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us  
to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep  
shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of  
promise.

**He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

Fill us with your Holy Spirit, clothe the baptized with Christ,

**and claim your children, no longer slave and free,  
no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized.**

Join us together in the Body of Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

The gracious love of God, the faithfulness of Jesus Christ,  
and their Spirit's overflowing joy, is with you all.

**And also with you.**

Holy One, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence.* 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 Leader and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### **GOD'S WORD**

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

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

This is a reading from Peter's 2<sup>nd</sup> letter, chapter 1.

For 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. 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." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

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. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

This is God's Word and our life.

#### **HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9**

*Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

This is the Holy Gospel as the Word was given to Matthew, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Master, 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." While 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!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Humanity has been raised from the dead."

This is the Good News of Christ's Victory.

**HYMN of the DAY: # 838 "Beautiful Savior"**

- 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!

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

**MESSAGE:**        *Glory*        *silence for reflection follows*

**The CHURCH PRAYS**

**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.

*A brief silence.*

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 conflict in Ukraine and the Holy Land. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. 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.**

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. We pray for ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry, Bishop Bill Gohl, Ebenezer Grace Worship, those hospitalized or recuperating at home, Greg, John, Lori, Mary Lue, Lynn, Will, Bea, our at-home worshippers, ...  
Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

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.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray that God's rule will appear, as Jesus has taught us.

**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**

### **SPIRIT'S SENDING**

#### **PRAYER for MISSION**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. You have drawn us to your heart. Send us 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 Leader and Savior. **Amen**

**BLESSING and PEACE**

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**

“Those who walked in the dark have seen a bright light.

**And it shines upon everyone who lives  
in the land of darkest shadows.”**

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

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**Today's Sponsorships**

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Today's Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

In Honor of our 66th wedding anniversary.
Given by Bärbel and Siegfried Otto.

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*Today's Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God*

In Loving Memory of my brother, Dave's birthday on February 13<sup>th</sup>,  
and In Honor of my brother, Don's birthday on February 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Given by their sister, Ruth May.

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Attendance for Sunday, February 8, 2026: 22

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## ***Learning, Serving, and Fellowship Opportunities***

**One Call Notifications:** If you have had recent issues receiving One Calls (robo calls) from the church and/or school AND you have an iPhone, please save the One Call number (410-665-4521) in your contacts list. In 2025, the iPhone had an update where users could opt in for a spam filter. Therefore, if you haven't saved the One Call number, it may be going to spam. If you still aren't receiving messages after saving the One Call number, please contact their customer service at 877-698-3262.

**Holiday Closures:** The church office and SPES will be closed on Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents' Day.

**Shrove Tuesday Dinner:** Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. St. Luke (7001 Harford Rd., 21234) invites you to a pancake supper and pretzel making! Admission is free. Call the church office for details (410-444-5171).

**Ash Wednesday Worship:** Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. in the church.

**Concordia Choir Concert:** Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. at The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen (5200 N. Charles St., 21210). The world-renowned Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota, under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, will perform music of J.S. Bach to familiar hymn arrangements. The choir will amaze you with their technical mastery and incredible sound. Tickets can be purchased at [ConcordiaTickets.com](https://ConcordiaTickets.com) or at the door.

**Lent at St. Peter's:** Pr. Lans will be presenting *The Small Catechism* via Zoom on Thursdays at 7 pm., beginning March 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact the church office for the link.

**St. Peter's Annual Meeting:** The church council voted to postpone the Annual Meeting, scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup>, to Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> between services. The meeting was postponed because of the possibility of a bad weather winter, and not all financial information and audits will be available in time for a 2/22 meeting.

**Camp Day at Mar-Lu-Ridge:** Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-4 pm. at the pavilion (3200 Mar Lu Ridge Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755). Everyone is welcome to join us for an afternoon of games, camp tours, snacks, crafts and activities for all ages. This day is for campers and families, or anyone interested in seeing what we have been up to recently! No RSVP necessary, just come join the fun.

**Spring Work Day at Mar-Lu-Ridge:** Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 8 am.- 3pm. (3200 Mar Lu Ridge Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755). It's that time of year again! Join us for projects and chores as we ready the camp for a busy spring and summer season. All ages and abilities welcome! Breakfast served at 8am in Agape Hall. Lunch served at noon. Please RSVP to mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org.

**Rest & Recharge on the Ridge:** Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 2-5:30 pm. Hiking, mindfulness, yoga, hymn singing, arts & crafts, hammocks, nature activity guides, and a light meal at 4:30. Mar-Lu-Ridge (3200 Mar Lu Ridge Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755) is hosting this free event for you to find a quiet space to reconnect with nature, engage in a favorite creative hobby & recharge your soul. Email mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org to RSVP.

**Sponsorships Available:** Altar flowers on 3/1 & 29, and bulletins on 3/29 (contact the church office).

**St. Peter's Family Goods Center:** If you are interested in volunteering for the Family Goods Center, please contact Bill Lauer. This is a great opportunity for service hours for your middle or high school student, and volunteer hours for SPES families. Please place donations in the shopping cart in the Narthex.

**Give to St. Peter's On-line!** Did you know that you can make offering donations and sponsorship payments on-line through PayPal?? Login to your PayPal account and search for our tag: @Spl367 or St. Peter's Lutheran Church and Christian Day School. When submitting your donation or payment, you can note what it's for. It's THAT easy!

### ***News from St. Peter's Elementary School and PACE***

Open enrollment for the 2026-27 school year is on NOW! Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions or want to schedule a tour. Referrals are always welcome!

**World's Finest Chocolate** fundraiser continues through February 27th! Purchase a bar, or two, from an SPES student or at the school office!

**Open House:** Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-1:30 pm. Contact the school office for more information.