

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

Blue Church Cemetery – 484-201-5048; e-mail: bluechurchcemetery@gmail.com

Transfiguration of Our Lord ✠ March 3, 2019

PRELUDE – "PRELUDE" – KEITH CHRISTOPHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who united us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

Mighty and loving God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope and love. Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the LORD is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever. **Amen.**

HYMN #834

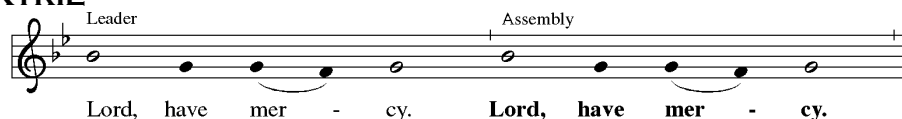
"IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE"

GREETING

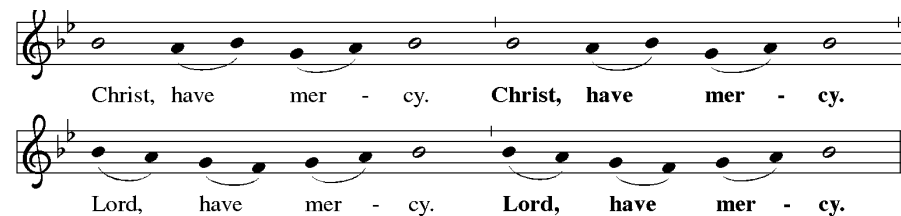
The boundless grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



Leader Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



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

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.
Amen.

FIRST LESSON

EXODUS 34:29-35

PSALM 99

Sung responsively

ELW tone #7



The LORD is king; let the | people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

**2The LORD, | great in Zion,
is high a- | bove all peoples.**

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

**4O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob.**

**5Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- | fore God's
footstool;
God is the | Holy One.**

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

**7you spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.**

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

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

SECOND LESSON

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12-4:2

VERSE

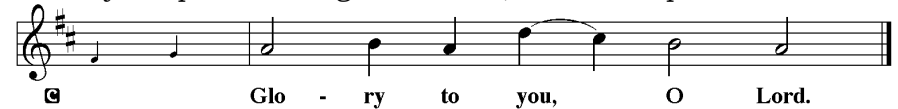


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th Chapter.

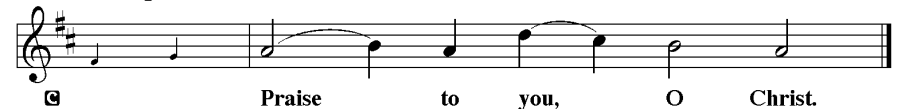


Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 9:28-36 (37-43A)

P: The Gospel of the LORD.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN #315 *HOW GOOD, LORD, TO BE HERE!*

NICENE CREED

**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; by the
power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the
virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father
and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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**

THE PRAYERS

Response: "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.
And also with you.

BURIAL OF ALLELUIA BANNER

OFFERING – “JESUS IS LORD” – MARK EDWARD LEWIS

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

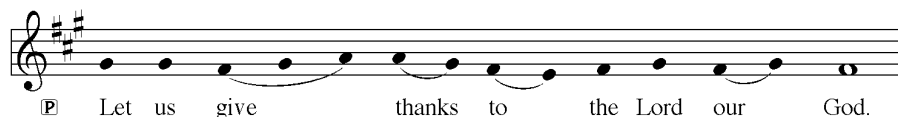
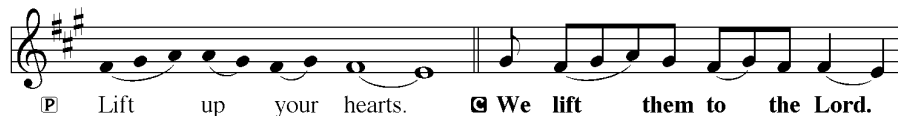
OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

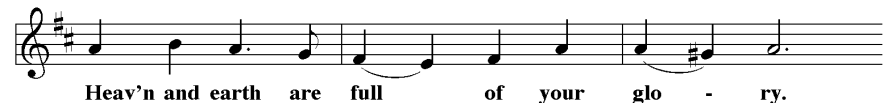
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...Holy Father,
**on the mount of the Transfiguration, the disciples offered your
Son their worship and praise. Accept, now, these gifts which
we bring to the honor and glory of your Beloved Son, Jesus
Christ our LORD. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join
their unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the LORD's Prayer.

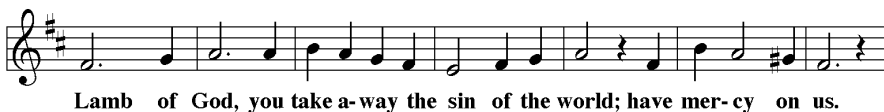
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

LAMB OF GOD





HOLY COMMUNION #810 “O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED”

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...Heavenly Father, you revealed the true radiance of your Son in the glory of His Transfiguration. Give us the grace and vision to behold our LORD in the food we receive from heaven; through Jesus Christ our LORD. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN #677 - THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is your light. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE — “TO THE GLORY OF GOD” — GERALD PETERSON



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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors. “God’s purpose for St. Paul’s Lutheran Blue” Church is to spread the Good News of Christ’s love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond.” –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

THIS DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR: TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the LORD in the word and in the supper and who are being “transformed into the same image” by the Spirit of God.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

EXODUS 34:29-35: Moses’ face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God’s glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12—4:2: In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses’ face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ’s likeness.

LUKE 9:28-36 (37-43a): The conversation about Jesus’ suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus’ identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: LORD of glory, let your light illumine our path.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Holy God, open our ears to hear Christ’s voice that we may follow him as faithful disciples. Amen.

PLEASE NOTE: - For those people wishing to take Holy Communion without wine, there are four cups in the center of the Communion tray with grape juice.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering: Ann Greensweig, Joel Hammond, Linda Kulp, Mary Levy, Carl Ritter, Christine Robins, Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in “acute care” situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of those for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
GREETER	Lillian Frey
ASSISTING MINISTER	Ron Fried
LECTOR	Gwen Gibiser
CANTOR	Gwen Gibiser
USHERS	Roger & Gloria Knappenberger
CHURCHTIME NURSERY	Maggie Fried
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Roger Knappenberger

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM Worship. – **FASTNACHTS AFTER WORSHIP.**
6 PM Catechism.

WED.: 9 AM Quilting.
7 PM Ash Wednesday Worship.

NEXT SUN.: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM Worship – **1st Sunday in Lent.**
Daylight Saving Time begins.

COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!

MARCH 11 – 7 PM Church Council Meeting.

MARCH 16 – 1 – 5 PM Blue Church Art Annual Student Show in Fellowship Hall.

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

BULLETINS...by Joyce Christman in memory of Family and Friends.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Mike and Paula Clark

THE COAT DRIVE IS UNDER WAY. Don't throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats to help those who can use them. You can bring in coats for drop off in the bin in the narthex.

The Sheets to sponsor Altar Flowers, Bulletins, the Sanctuary Candle, and the monthly Communion Wine for 2019 are on the bulletin boards in the Narthex. Please make sure to sign the appropriate chart.

Stewardship Snippet

March 3, 2019 (Transfiguration Sunday)

2 Corinthians 3:17 – Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

God's path is all about freedom. Steward/disciples find that freedom when we love God with all our being and our neighbor as ourselves! Our faith aligns us with God's abundance and power. Freedom!

ELIGIBLE THRIVENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE CHOICE

DOLLARS AVAILABLE have until **March 31, 2019**, to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Help support Blue Church. Last year Blue Church received **\$908.00** in charitable outreach funding from Thrivent. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more, or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not 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. ¹⁴But 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. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And 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.

⁴Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We 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.