



February 15th, 2026,
9:00 a.m.
Transfiguration, Year A

St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church

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ELCA

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God's beloved, winter still holds us in its grip. The air is cold, the ground rests beneath frost and snow, and the nights remain long. Yet the days are slowly growing brighter. Morning light lingers a little longer on the horizon, and even in the chill, we sense that something is stirring. God's light continues to shine—steady, patient, and sure—awakening hope in us. In this season of waiting and becoming, let us bring before God all that weighs on us, trusting in God's mercy and grace. Let us pray:

God of returning light, we confess that we do not always notice what you are doing among us. We grow tired in the long winter of our hearts. We cling to fears that keep us frozen, carry worries we cannot release, and hesitate to trust the new life you are bringing forth. When the path ahead feels uncertain, we resist your call to move forward. Gently turn us toward your light. Soften what has grown hard within us, and help us live into the grace you renew each day. Amen.

Siblings in Christ, hear the good news: The light of Christ shines. Even now, God is at work—loosening what is bound, restoring what is broken, and releasing what has weighed us down. In Jesus Christ † your sins are forgiven, and you are made new. God's mercy surrounds you, steady as the returning daylight, guiding you toward hope and life.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

GATHERING HYMN

Alleluia, Song of Gladness



- 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

GREETING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also, with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of dazzling glory,

On the mountain you revealed your beloved Son, his face shining with your light, your voice calling us to listen. Help us to listen, as we come down from the mountain toward dust and ashes, as we prepare our hearts for Lent, touch us with your mercy and grace. When the light fades and the path narrows, fix our eyes on Jesus alone—the Beloved who walks with us into the valley, the Word we follow through the shadow of the cross, the glory that will not let us go. **Amen.**

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 2

Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against the Lord's anointed?

"Let us break their yoke," they say; "let us cast off their bonds from us."

God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the Lord holds them in derision.

Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

"As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain."

Let me announce the decree of the Lord, who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.

You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.

Submit to the Lord with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath. Happy are all who take refuge in God!

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: 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



- 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' 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 INTERCESSION

Responding to “Hear us, O God” with “Your mercy is great.”

PEACE May the peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God is a generous giver of gifts that flow like a river from the fountain of life. Let us bring our offerings and tributes with thanks and praise.

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZEVQ/home>

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am rich,” because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am rich,” because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

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—these gifts, our lives, our hearts—to bring your light into the world, and show your steadfast love to all people. In Christ we pray. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

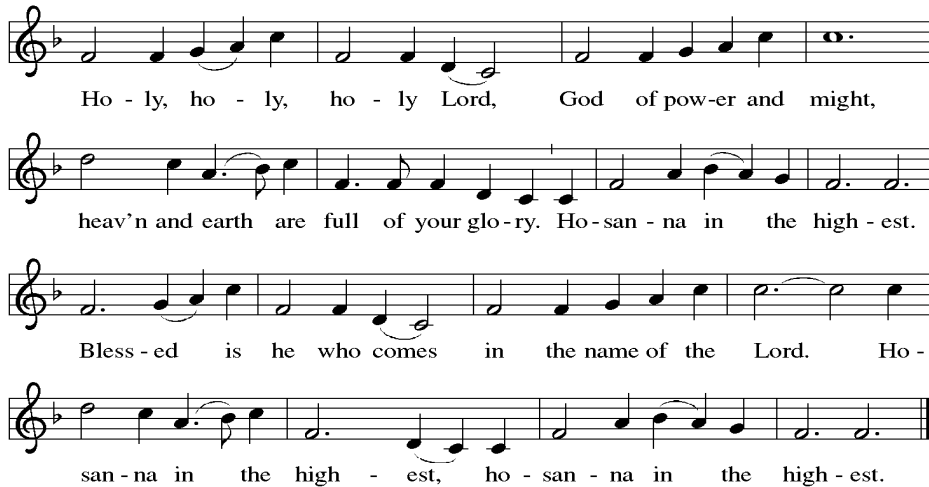
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

PREFACE

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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'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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & 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 & ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Beloved children of God, it is February. The days are growing longer and the light is returning. In this season of widening warmth, the love of Christ shines for all. At this table, God welcomes everybody—those who come with full hearts and those who come with heavy ones, those steady in faith and those still wondering, those rejoicing and those in need of comfort. All are invited to come just as you are. Here you will find grace for today, forgiveness freely given, and love that meets you in every moment.



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 HYMNS

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



- 1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
- 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
- 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there
 4 Al - might - y Fu - ther, in your Son you loved us,

God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
 falls from God a - bove; a ray of pur - est plea - sure,
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!

Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here

you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing, Now, though
 heav'n - ly food, You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion, Al - le -

ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life

in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us,
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us,
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
 Our joy be all with music crowned,
 our voices gaily blending!
 For Christ goes with us all the way—
 today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
 His love is never ending!
 Sing out! Ring out!
 Jubilation!
 Exultation!
 Tell the story!
 Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past,
 the Lord we love is first and last,
 the end and the beginning!
 He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
 transport us to that happy place
 beyond all tears and sinning!
 Amen! Amen!
 Come, Lord Jesus!
 Crown of gladness!
 We are yearning
 for the day of your returning.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, in *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: WILF SCHEIN LEUCHTET!, Philipp Nicolai

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
Strengthened by this gift, may we carry your light into the world—bringing hope to the weary, warmth to the lonely, and love to those we meet. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Creator of the mountains bring you courage,
May the light of Christ shine hope into your heart,
May the movement of the Spirit bring you joyful adventure,
And may the Three in One ✠ infuse brilliance into each day,
Transfiguring your mind, body, and spirit. Amen

SENDING HYMN

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak - ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill:
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.
an - thems be to thee ad - dressed,
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

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Welcome to all! Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John Immanuel and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ's Table.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John Immanuel (715) 675-6950 *If you or a loved one is in the hospital and would like a visit from Pastor Maggie, please contact St. John Immanuel.*

Food Basket. Each week you are invited to bring **non-perishable grocery** items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Shopping Cart* next to the main entrance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noisy offering! The 2nd Sunday of the month! Next Noisy offering:

Sunday, March 8th bring your coins (bills also accepted 😊).

Money will be raised and donated quarterly. This noisy offering will go to: *Community Dinners for those in need.* Did you know St. John Immanuel hosts three Community Dinners a year and each one costs approximately \$1,300. Your donations help serve a very real need in our community! **If you are a Thrivent member, you may be eligible to apply for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team card** which can go directly towards our community dinners. Please see Connie Nowak if you can help!

LENTEN DINNERS: We need volunteers to prepare and serve our Lenten Dinners. We also need volunteers to bring salads, desserts and milk, and to help with cleanup. The dinners will be served from 5-6 pm. Worship starts at 6:30. The sign-up chart is in the narthex. Please join us for Lent this year.

Please note: *Any money that is raised from the Lenten Dinners will go towards community outreach support, such as community dinners and the Marty Bus.*

Wednesday, February 18th Ash Wednesday - Lenten Dinner starts at 5:00 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m.

Chair Yoga: February 21st / February 28th all starting at 10:00 a.m. at St. John Immanuel! A free event, donations are accepted for St. John Immanuel Youth.

Mission Trip to Duluth, MN Sunday, July 12th – Friday July 17th Grades 6th – 12th Please let us know if your student is interested by 02/18/2026

Sunday, February 22nd at 10:15 a.m. – St. John’s Annual Cemetery Association Meeting

Monday, February 23rd at 6:30 – Adult Study – Luke 14-19:27

Sunday, March 1st at 10:15 a.m. – Advance Funeral Planning by Helke & Brainard

Monday, March 9th at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Maggie’s Book Club will discuss *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans.

Kwik Trip Gift Cards Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall or on our website! Help support St. John Immanuel with Kwik Trip gift cards!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children’s sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Coming This Week @ St. John Immanuel February 15th – February 22nd

Today - Sunday, February 15th

- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee Hour / Sunday School – David & Goliath

Ash Wednesday, February 18th

- 8:30 a.m. Quilters Meet
- 5:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship – Confirmation - Mandatory Attendance

Thursday, February 19th

- 5:30 p.m. Bells Practice – come try the bells! No experience needed.

Sunday, February 22nd

- 9:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee Hour / Sunday School – Elijah & The Widow