



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

February 15, 2026 - Setting 1

Transfiguration Sunday

Pastor Calvin Konop, Presiding

Jess Christenson, CYF Director

Karina Roth, Musical Director

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*Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on the North Shore and Beyond!*

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## Introduction

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

## Prelude

Karina Roth

## Welcome and Announcements

## 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.  
*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

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.**

## Greeting

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.**

## Kyrie

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## Canticle of Praise

This is the Feast

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## Prayer of the Day

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.

## Children's Time

(No Pennies please!)

On the way up the aisles, the children will be collecting coins for the "Holy Cow" fund, which will support ELCA World Hunger. *Find that loose change and hand it to a kiddo!* The bank no longer is accepting pennies- please refrain from including them in the "Noisy Change" collection.

## First Reading

Exodus 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup> 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." <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> 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."

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Psalm 2

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations in an uproar?  
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

- <sup>2</sup> **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?**
- <sup>3</sup> "Let us break their yoke," they say;  
"let us cast off their bonds from us."
- <sup>4</sup> **God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;  
the Lord holds them in derision.**
- <sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God speaks to them,  
and in rage fills them with terror.
- <sup>6</sup> **"As for me, I have anointed my king  
upon Zion, my holy mountain."**
- <sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree of the Lord,  
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you.
- <sup>8</sup> **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**
- <sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an iron rod  
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
- <sup>10</sup> **And now, you kings, be wise;  
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**
- <sup>11</sup> Submit to the Lord with fear,  
and with trembling bow in worship;
- <sup>12</sup> **lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.  
Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

## Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16-21

<sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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." <sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

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## Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>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." <sup>5</sup>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!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>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.**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Calvin Konop**

**Hymn of the Day** *Dazzling Presence on the Mountain* ACS 917

**Confession of Faith**

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 God's 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 especially in Ukraine, Sudan, Isreal, Palestine, Venezuela, our Twin Cities and State of Minnesota. 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. *We pray especially for Kathy, Martha, Kristin, Rolf, Linda, Kamryn, Luke, Sarah, Bruce, Lynn, and Katrina* We pray now for those we name aloud, or in the silence of our hearts. *(A time of silence)* We pray for all those dealing with issues of mental health or addiction. 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.**

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.**

## Sharing the Peace

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

## Offering

Bethlehem Choir

## 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

ELW page 107

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW page 108

Thanksgiving at the Table

ELW page 109

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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 Communion

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see. All are welcome!

*Bethlehem Lutheran Church believes in the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, and we practice eucharistic hospitality. All persons, whether visiting or a member, are welcomed to Communion.*

Communion Music

*Lamb of God*

ELW page 112

*I Love To Tell the Story*

ELW 661

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in grace unto everlasting life. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

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.

Blessing

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

*In Thee Is Gladness*

ELW 867

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude



**Karina Roth**

**NO MORE PENNIES!** Unfortunately, the bank no longer accepts pennies so we appreciate only silver coins. Thank you!



**This week we lift up these members:** Martha Rosbacka, Mary Sanders, Kristin Lindholm, Rolf Morck, Linda Zenk, Clayton Koss, Kamryn Johnson, Lois Johnson, Butch & Rhonda Schulte, Linda Zenk, Luke Gulstrand, Sarah Coe, Lynn Schulte, Paulina Backstrom, Phyllis Olson, Joan Bieber, Gene & Barbara Erickson, Bruce & Stacey Johnson, Annalisa Winje; Shae Lindholm, Char Anderson, Stacey Schulte, Hank Ferland, Margaret Dahl, Katrina Crouse, Tom Christiansen, Karen Shannon,

**This week we lift up these members:** Kim Shepard; Bob Stoskopf; Phil & Sue Lund; Sherry Carlson; George & Chery Humphrey; Shelley, Dallas & Morgan Starkey; . May God walk with these faithful friends in their journey of peace through Christ.

**Our Mission of the Month for February is the Activities Department of our local Care Center.** We want to provide funds for more social events, equipment for games, and materials that will allow residents to pursue creative hobbies that they once enjoyed or would like to try for the first time. We know that isolation and feelings of loneliness are harmful to both mental and physical health. Helping to provide for more social interaction is one way our church can show that we care for all of the residents there.

**“WOW” Volunteers!** Thanks to our volunteer workers at The Grand Marais 1st & 2nd Thrift Store who contributed their hourly wages to Bethlehem. We received **\$10,882!** Worker bees include: Annie DeBevec, Kathleen Johnson, Lois Johnson, Craig Peterson and Dianne Peterson. We are blessed by your volunteerism. Thank you!

**Join us for a St. Paddy's Feast! Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup>.** Two seating times: 4:30 & 6:00pm. **Advanced ticket sales:** \$20/adult, \$10/child, wee little ones are free! All proceeds will go to helping our immigrant siblings in Minnesota. Purchase your tickets in the narthex after worship or through the office (218-387-2227 or blc@boreal.org) Pastor Calvin & Sue Hennessy are coordinating. Gwen's Hospitality Team will be serving. Contact Pastor, Sue or Gwen to help. **Menu:** Corned Beef & Cabbage, Vegan Irish Stew, Potatoes, Irish Soda Bread, & Irish Cream Chocolate Cake. *You don't want to miss this!*

*Music will also be part of the experience! Spread the word.*





WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>

JOIN US FOR SOUP  
SUPPER AT 5:30PM

WORSHIP AT 6:00 PM



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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### This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun Feb 15	8:40 AM Choir Practice <b>10:00AM Worship Service &amp; Sunday School</b> <b>2:00 PM Worship at the Care Center</b>
Mon Feb 16	6:30 PM Council Meeting
Tues Feb 17	8:30 AM Staff meeting
Wed Feb 18	12:30 PM Text Study 5:30 PM Community Meal <b>6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship</b>
Thurs Feb 19	8:00 AM Bible Study 9:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Table Tennis
Fri Feb 20	- - - - Clarity Hearing
Sat Feb 21	8:00 PM Lock-In, 6-12 grade
Sun Feb 22	8:40 AM Choir practice <b>10:00 AM Worship Service &amp; Sunday School</b>

**\*\*Thrivent Members:** We are seeking 2 Thrivent Action Cards for the Irish Meal. Contact Denise in the office.

Traveler Cards and Local Grocery Cards are available from BLC to members of the community that need help. Please contact the office.

Table Tennis every Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome.

*Quilters are down to 3 gals! and are seeking more fun-loving helpers!* Every Thursday morning at 9 to 11:30am. Come as you are able. No experience necessary.

March Newsletter Articles are due by Monday Feb. 23.



On-line giving is encouraged using this QR Code or through automatic transfer. (Forms are available online & the office.)

## CYF Upcoming Events

Owl Night Lock In, Feb 21-22. Grades 6-12

Communion Learners Classes: March 15, 22 & 29, 11:00am after worship. Grades 3-5 or anyone that has missed this class.

Bethlehem Builders Club! After school program, grades 3-5, Wednesdays after school in March. 3:30-5:30pm

Summer Camp: \$250 scholarships available for students going to a Christian Camp this summer.

Vacation Bible School: July 13-17, gr K-5. 9-noon. Youth gr 6-12 can help lead!

See Jess for more information:

507-530-2763, [blcyouth@boreal.org](mailto:blcyouth@boreal.org)