Transfiguration of Our Lord March 2, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our



ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*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 the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

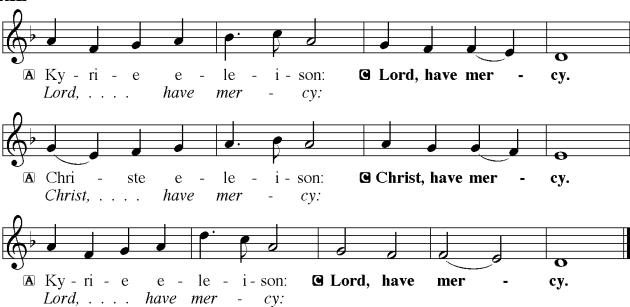
live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

*GREETING

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





*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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.

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.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 99 (read responsively)

- 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.
- ⁴O 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,

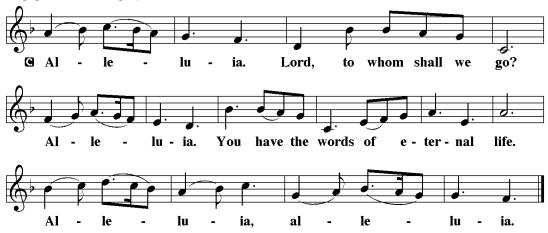
- ⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.
- ⁸O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.
- ⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's holy hill; 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.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*Gospel Luke 9:28-36

The holy gospel according to Luke.

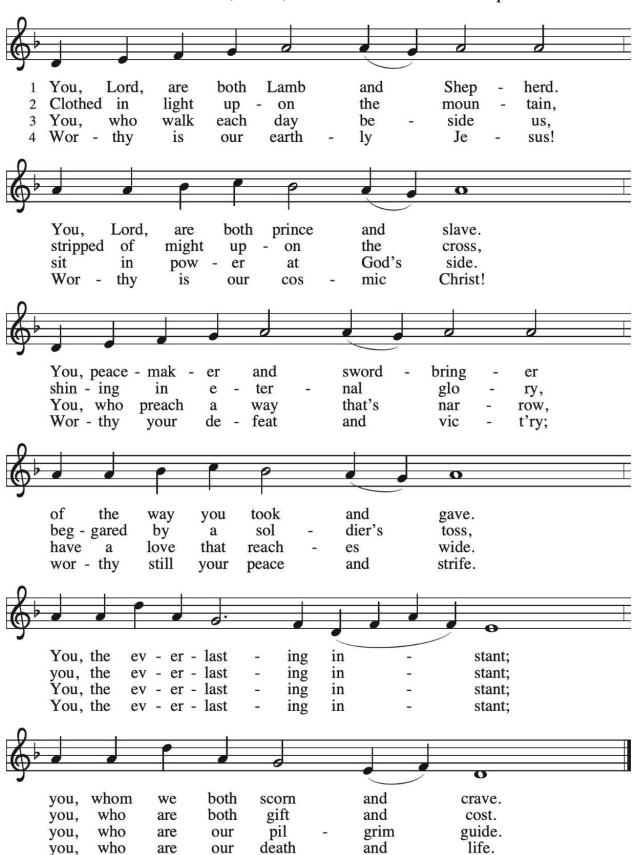
Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

HOMILY Pastor Traci

ACS # 954



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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*NICENE CREED

- P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the 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 THE CHURCH

- A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
- A: 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, **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, **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, **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. God of grace, **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, **hear our prayer.**
- 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, **hear our prayer.**
- P: 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 PEACE

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting that is comfortable for both you and them.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave; we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:

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

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

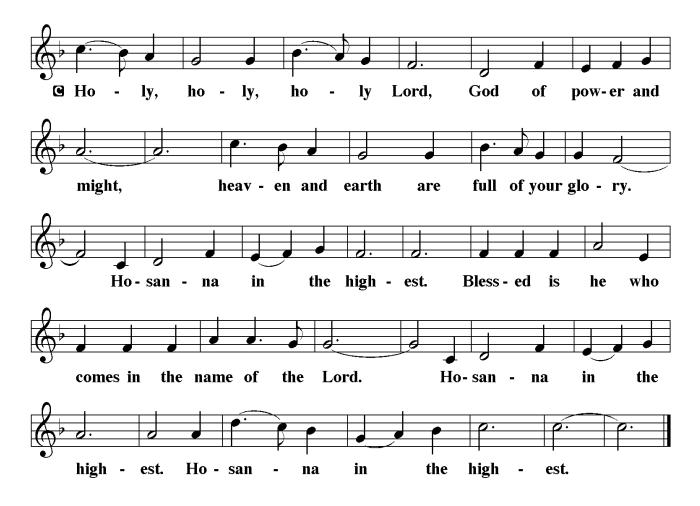
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PROPER PREFACE

P: 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, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. 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:



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

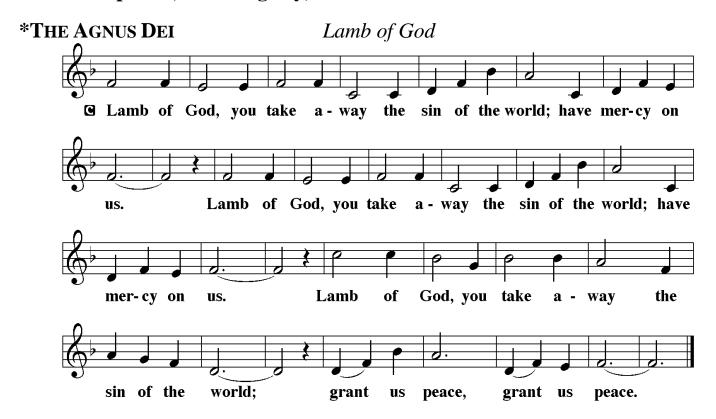
Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. *C*: Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- C: 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

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION HYMN

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

ELW # 315

*BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. C: Amen.

*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.

*BENEDICTION

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

*SENDING SONG

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW # 318

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in hope. C: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

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Today's Altar Flowers are placed to the Glory of God in loving memory of our fathers: Carl Alexy and Bob Oswalt placed by Steve and Kim Oswalt.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists - Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolytes – Gabby Decker, Lily and Lucy Lightner

Our Assisting Minister – Jane Fagans

Our Lector – Alan Kuster

Our Usher – Tina Harclerode

Our Altar Guild – Jeanne Smith, Cindy Snyder

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to "Local Needs"

This Week at St. Matthew: 814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Tues. 1:00-4:00 p.m. Jen – Mon.- Fri.: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today – Transfiguration of Our Lord

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Evangelism Committee Meeting Following Worship

Wednesday – Ash Wednesday

Worship 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary (No Meal)

Thursday – Food Pantry 9:00-11:00 a.m., Allegheny St.

Sunday – 1st Sunday in Lent

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Gerry Girolami, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names will be removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should remain longer or be removed sooner.

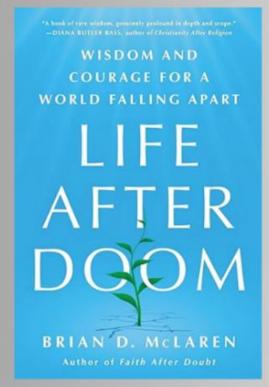
Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Avery, Randy Barrett, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Dr. Ramon Burket, Caleb, Warren Campbell, Phillip Claar, Dave Clayton, Greg Comer, Terry Creek, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Marilyn Horton, Don Hosterman, Baby James, Ruth Johnson, Darren Kreutzer, Connie Lamborn, Linda Lehman, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Aunt Mica, Carl Miner, Nathan, Olga Perlov, Deb Peters, Bekah Ross, Dan Ross, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Margie Smith, Dorothy Stahl, Jean Stonerook, Cindy Thomas, Tiffany Townsend, Joey Tremmel, Drew Wenzel, Susan Werner, Jean White, Joel Widmann, Pete Williams, Jody Zelanko, and for our Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.

Away at School: Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jeff Hoenstine, Lacey Ripka.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep, Colin Guyer, Nathan Smith (Germany).

Join us for a new Cross Country Book Study

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Martinsburg, PA & Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd of Duluth, MN



Meet members of our extended church family as Pastor Traci & Pastor Lisa lead this weekly Zoom discussion of Brian McLaren's <u>Life After Doom</u>
--an honest and eye-opening portrayal of our current predicament in human history

Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, & 27 7PM EST / 6PM CST

See your Pastor for the Zoom Link

Although scripture begins with a call to tend God's creation, we know we have fallen far short in our stewardship of the earth. Brian McLaren's latest book explores the situation we're in, what's coming next, and how we are called to live faithfully in our world of turmoil. With members of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Duluth MN, we'll discuss this important topic every Thursday in March by Zoom (7PM). Although this is not a hard text to understand, it is a serious and sobering topic, best studied in community. We will begin March 6th by introducing ourselves and responding to the introduction of the book.



業

If services need to be cancelled for inclement weather, we will attempt to notify you using email (like we do for the Sunday Bulletin and Messenger) and Facebook. On days when the weather is questionable, please check these notifications before you travel. If you need a phone

call instead, please let the office know.

Parish Directory

Please submit changes to your address or telephone number to the office at 814-793-2413 or stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com ASAP so it can be included in the 2025 Parish Directory.

Offering Envelopes

Please contact the church office if you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive offering envelopes (or if you would like to have your name/address changed or removed).

Office Closure During Inclement Weather

On days that the Spring Cove School District cancels or delays instruction due to weather, the church office will be closed as well. In the event of an emergency, Pastor Traci can be reached at 814-935-9237.







Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Martinsburg Grace Brethren Church will be helping at the Food Pantry on the first and third Thursdays, March 6 and March 20. It will be open to distribute food from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m., and on Saturdays at 11:00a.m. by appointment.



The food items most needed for March are: Peanut Butter, Pasta Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes. Rice Sides and Juice. These or any items may be placed in the food basket at church.

Thank you! Linda Smith

Lutheran Disaster Response is one of the first organizations in and last organizations out of communities affected by natural and human-made disasters. 100% of gifts to LDR earmarked for a specific aid response help affected people in that area until recovery efforts are complete.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

LOS ANGELES WILDFIRES

Scan to give online



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

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "Lutheran Disaster Response" or "U.S. Wildfires" on your check's memo line.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

HURRICANE HELENE

Scan to give online



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

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

Church Messenger

The March 2025 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home or provide an email address and a copy can be emailed to you each month as soon as it is published. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.

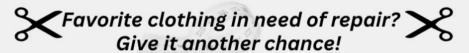
Altar Flowers



The 2025 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. There are plenty of dates available. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price: \$40.00



Community Mending Ministry at St. Matthew



Bring laundered clothes that need mending to work on yourself or get help from our sewers.

Materials, machines, & expertise provided.

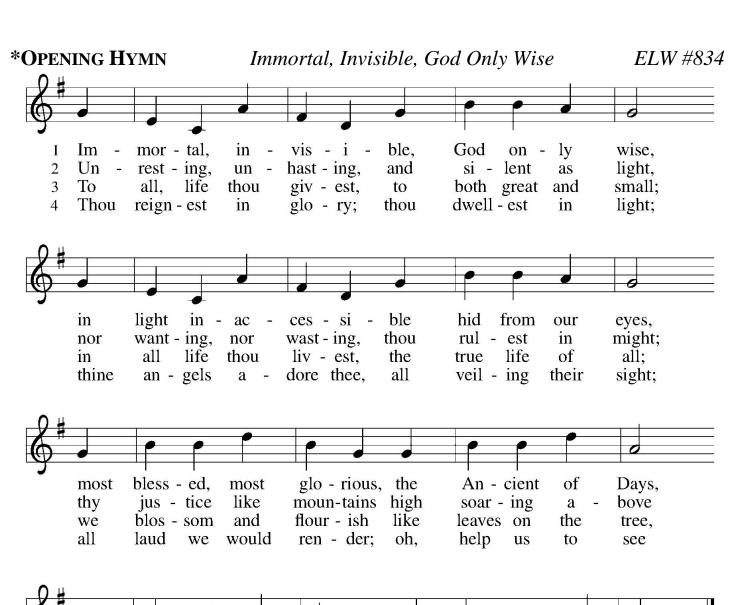
And we'll have snacks!

Feel free to stay for supper at 6PM and/or Lenten Worship at 6:45PM

Wednesday, March 19 from 2:30 to 4:30PM

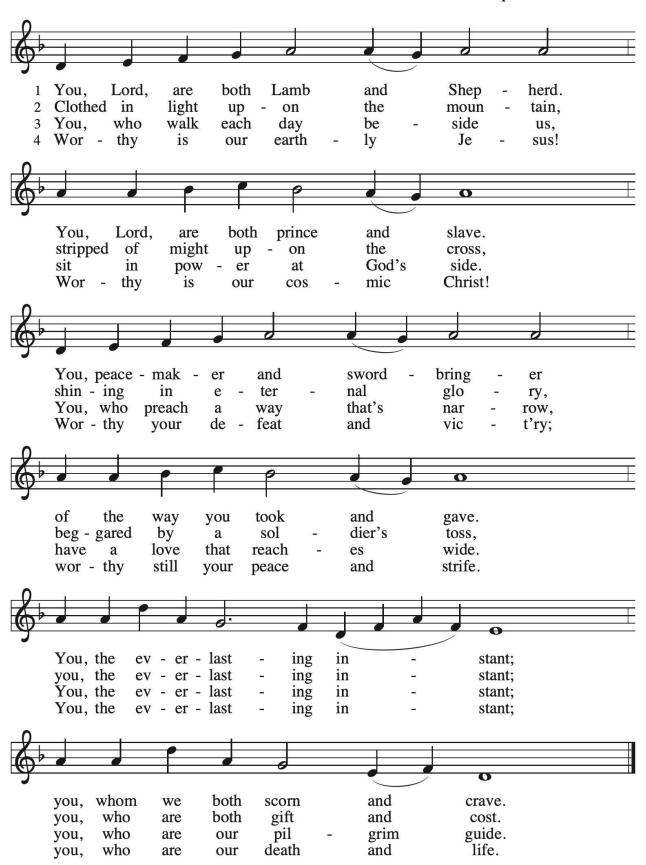
St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall
115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)







Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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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. 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 home. we our since you bid us leave the mount, come with us but the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, The Church Psalter and Hymn Book, 1854



- 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,



an - them ev - er dear to al - le - lu - ia is the choirs on high; al - le - lu - ia, ju - bi - lee; joy - ful moth-er, bring us to your al - le - lu - ia our trans-gres-sions make us for 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