



Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church  
of  
St. Matthew

*A friendly  
household of faith*

Chartered Dec 6, 1664

**361 years of  
Gospel Ministry**

A congregation of  
The Lutheran Church –  
Missouri Synod.

The Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrah  
Pastor



A Divine Worship Liturgy – February 15, 2026

# Transfiguration of Our Lord

Welcome to a Divine Liturgy of Word and Sacrament. In our worship we gather in the Lord's presence at his invitation and in the company of the whole Church in heaven and on earth. We hear Him speak to us as he freely bestows the abundance of his grace. In response, we repent of our sins and offer up to Him our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and dedicate our lives to serving Him.

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### Brief Order of Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*All may make the sign of the cross  in remembrance of their baptism, as the minister begins.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy and prepare our hearts to meet the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Gracious God,

**C** **we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P** From the house of David, God raised up a mighty Savior.

**C** **Blessed be the Lord God Almighty, who comes to set us free.**

**P** Remembering the covenant, God delivered us from our enemies.

**C** **Blessed be the Lord God our righteousness, who comes to set us free.**

**P** Called to be heirs of God's kingdom, we are free to worship without fear.

**C** **Blessed be the Lord God and King, who comes to set us free.**

**P** With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins. Christ Jesus, the dawn from on high, the Word made flesh, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace. **C** Amen.



## Hymn: 537 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 sorr'wing 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: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904 Text: Public domain

## Apostolic 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 - *Lord. Have mercy*

**P** The blessed Son of God In a crib full poor did lie;  
With our poor flesh and our poor blood  
Was clothed that everlasting good.  
Lord, have mercy.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** The Lord Christ Jesu, God's dear Son,  
Was a guest and a stranger here; To redeem  
us from misery, That we might live eternally.  
Christ, have mercy

**C** Christ, have mercy.

**P** All this did he for us freely, Out of his great mercy;  
All the earth be joyful therefore,  
And give him thanks for evermore.  
Lord, have mercy

**C** Lord, have mercy

Text attr: Martin Luther translated by Miles Coverdale

## Hymn of Praise - *Gloria in Excelsis*

**P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C** Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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

**P** Let us pray... O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son  
You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and  
Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully  
foreshadowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the  
King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven;  
through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen

*Sit*

The Readings - Hear the word of the LORD. (*Jeremiah 2:4*)

**A reading from the Book of Exodus**

And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

<sup>12</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him 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 dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst 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 people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.      *Exodus 24:8-18*

**A The Word the Lord.      C Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 2:6-12 (congregation chants the refrain in bold print)**

**Refrain: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.**

**My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.**

“As for me, I have | set my King\* on Zion, my | holy hill.”

<sup>7</sup>I will tell of | the decree:\*

The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten you.

<sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,\*

and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.

<sup>9</sup>You shall break them with a | rod of iron\*

and dash them in pieces like a potter’s | vessel.” **Refrain**

<sup>10</sup>Now therefore, O | kings, be wise;\* be warned, O rulers | of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>Serve the | Lord with fear,\* and rejoice with | trembling.

<sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly | kindled.\* Blessed are all who take ref- | uge in him. **Refrain**

## A reading from the second letter of St. Peter to the Church.

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 were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:16-21

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Acclamation (all stand and sing)**

**C** Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, 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 white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” <sup>8</sup>And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

Matthew 17:1-9

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

## Hymn: 414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

- 1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
    Thy glory fills the night;  
    Thy face and garments, like the sun,  
        Shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,  
    Thy beauty to behold  
    Where Moses and Elijah stand,  
        Thy messengers of old.
- 3 Fulfiller of the past  
    And hope of things to be,  
    We hail Thy body glorified  
        And our redemption see.
- 4 Before we taste of death,  
    We see Thy kingdom come;  
    We long to hold the vision bright  
        And make this hill our home.
- 5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
    Yet we may not remain;  
    But since Thou bidst us leave the mount,  
        Come with us to the plain.

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

Text: Public domain

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED

**C** I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before  
all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our  
salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the  
Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified  
also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the  
Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living  
and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the  
Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian\* and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life  of the world to come. Amen.      (\* *catholic = universal*)

## Prayer of the Church

*After each petition, the following is said:* Lord, in your mercy. **C** Hear our prayer



WE PRAY for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according  
to their needs, including— **Edna & Bob Waller, Delomi & Sarjue Persaud, Johnny**  
**Ramroop, Ruth Zerner, Violet Monson, Brenda Carmichael, Zonia & Resa Bucknor,**  
**Eunice Lyte, Agnes D'Ornellas, Carmen D'Ornellas, Sheila Motie, George Sukhdeo,**  
**Jackie Wheeler, Joyce Deebrah, Dorothy Weener, Jeanette Mota, Dolly Singh,**  
**Khamlita D'Ornellas, Narda Seoprasad, Kirsten Sandblom, Pastor George Ramsudh,**  
**Joan Dookram, Ruth & Tom Cameron, Rushell Singh, Suresh Paul, Iris Cheddie,**  
**Sandra Campbell, Alecia Clark, Milo Noven, Pastor Dave & Sue Dietsche, Pastor**  
**Vic Rapp, Pastor Ken Schnepf, Deo Bhagwatprasad, Ismael Ulloah, Patrick**  
**Fredricks, Eleanor Drepaul, Justin Shaw, Pastor David Gerber, Andrea Doodnauth,**  
**Pastor Jean Cenat, Casilda & James Meade, Pauline Strong.**

**The PEACE is shared at this time.**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you

**The OFFERING** is received, followed by the **OFFERTORY & prayer**

Offertory: Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,

TFF 98 To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus

**P** Let us pray... **C** Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Liturgy of Holy Communion



**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 Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed good, right, and ... join their unending hymn:

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed  is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**P** Blessed are you, O Adonai, Most High and Holy God, for the wonders of your goodness which creates, establishes, and permeates the heavens and the earth. We praise you for the promises you made to the Patriarchs, as you led your chosen people out of slavery into the land of promise, giving them your Law on Sinai's heights. You promised, through the prophets, that the Messiah would come, the very branch of Jesse - before whom all nations would keep silent. Then at the right time, you sent your beloved Son, Jesus, our Emmanuel, the key of David, born of Mary by the power of the Spirit. He came to rescue the uprooted, to bring life to the lifeless, and on Calvary's heights gave His life to draw all people to Himself and to your promise of mercy

The Words of Our Lord, *then the following:*

**P** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

**P** Blessed are you, Adonai, Lord of might. You fulfilled your promises in the death, resurrection, and ascension of your Son, the King of all nations. We praise you for embracing us as the people who now dwell in the brightness of His glory.

Grant that we, in this holy communion, may be united to Him who is our

cornerstone, the One who gives His very body and blood to sustain us in His forgiving love. With all the people of your promises, we wait our Lord's final coming when we will share in that feast which shall never end.

**C** Amen. Come, O precious Ransom, come!

**P** Hear us, Abba Father, as we pray in Jesus' name and as He has taught us:

**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.

*Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God*

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant...

**P** Behold the Lamb of God. Behold Him who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are they who are invited to the Supper of the Lamb.

**C** Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
    but only say the word and I shall be healed.

*Communicants gather at the altar to receive the holy gifts of the Lord's Supper. Upon receiving the body and blood of the Lord, the response "Amen" is said in testimony of the mystery and the miracle of faith.*

**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell everyone what he has done.  
    Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.  
    He recalls his promises. and leads his people forth in joy. With  
    shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**P** Let us pray...Almighty God, we thank you that as the broken bread was gathered into one loaf, the broken fragments of our history are gathered up and healed by the redeeming act of Christ. Send us forth in peace, form us into what we celebrate, the body of Christ in the world. Nourished by this sacrament, give us strength and courage to serve you in daily life with joy and singleness of heart. In the name of Christ we pray. **C** Amen.

**Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{+}$  give you peace. **C** Amen.

**Announcements**

**Stand**

**Hymn: TFF65 This Little Light of Mine**  
*(Lord, The Light of Your Love is Shining)*

1 Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

*{Chorus}*

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill *our lives* with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance  
By the blood I may enter your brightness  
Search me, *wash* me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me

3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

Text: Graham A. Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music

*All sit for a moment of reflection.*

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God. 

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We are the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Matthew**, America's oldest Lutheran congregation (Chartered Dec 6, 1664) - a friendly household of faith.

This congregation's mission is to share the Good News of God in word and deed. In the name of Jesus, we bid you a warm welcome. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew. Please speak with the Pastor or one of our members concerning membership. First time visitors, please sign our guest book.

## **Announcements**

- **Glad that you have worshipped** today in joining with the angels and archangels, and the whole company of heaven around the glorious throne of God.
- **Divine Worship:** Sundays at 1:30 PM  
In-person and on Zoom (Meeting ID: 821 423 1875)  
+ **Why do we gather for worship?** To celebrate the goodness of the Lord in thanksgiving. We are reminded: "Let us not neglect our meeting together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of [Christ's] return is drawing near." Hebrews 10:25
- **Ash Wednesday, February 18:** Service with imposition of ashes at 1:30 p:m
- **Mid-week Lenten devotions:** Wednesdays at 7 pm on Zoom
- **Your offering is an important and integral part of worship**, given with joy and in thanksgiving to God. We return to the Lord a portion of what He has first given us out of His Fatherly love. Your Offerings, in and out of season, support of the ministry of the congregation.
- **Visit our church website** [www.stmatthewnyc.org](http://www.stmatthewnyc.org)
- **You may give your Offering electronically by either of the following ways:**
  - use **DONATE** menu tab on the St. Matthew website – [www.stmatthewnyc.org](http://www.stmatthewnyc.org)
  - use **Zelle** and enter St. Matthew email: [stmatthewnyc@aol.com](mailto:stmatthewnyc@aol.com)
- Daily Bible reading and devotions on the internet, visit [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp)
- **LET'S READ THE BIBLE TOGETHER.** We are reading the New Testament (27 books) and the book of Psalms (150 chapters).