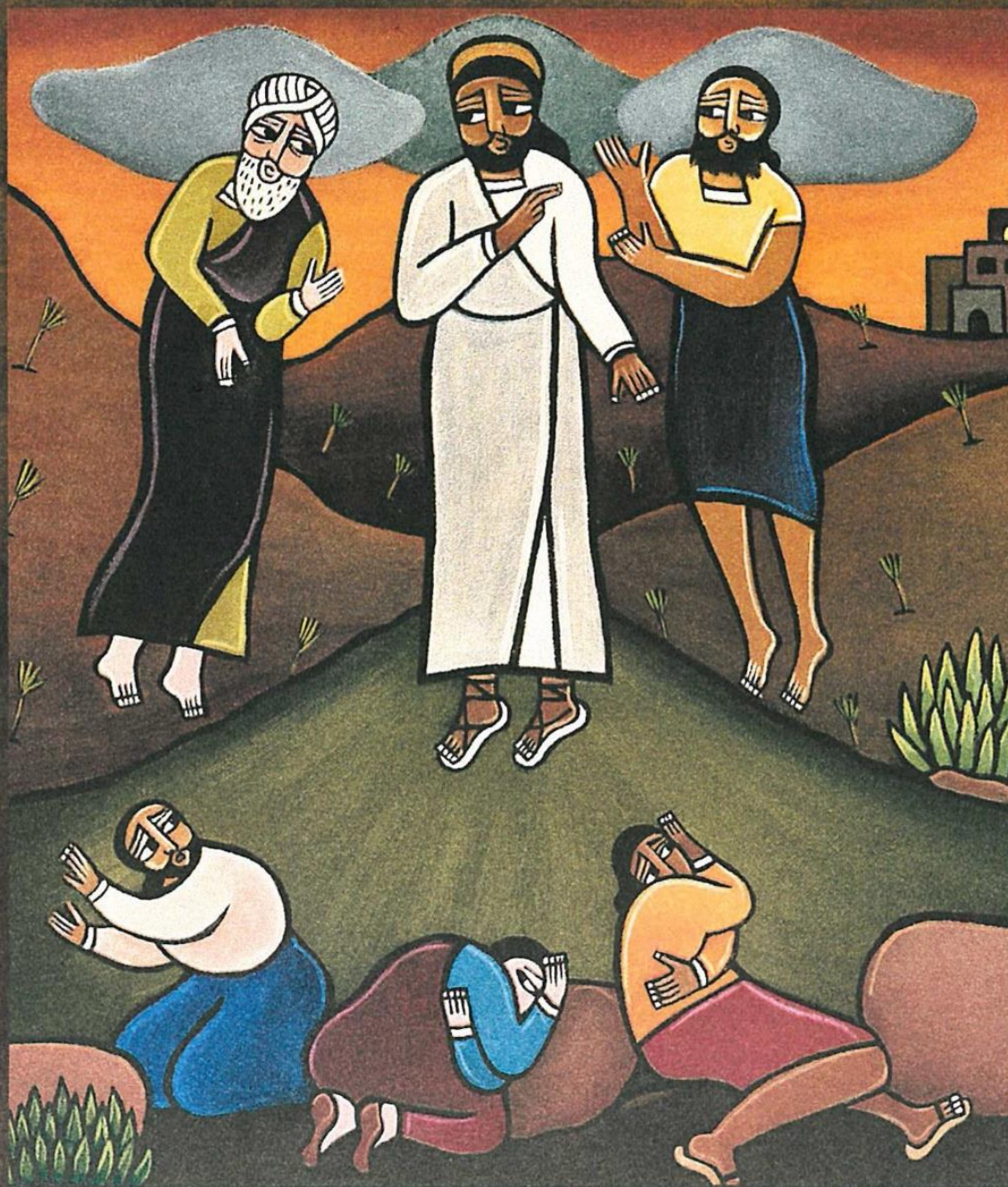


Jesus was transfigured before them

MARK 9:2





+ The Transfiguration Of Our Lord +

February 14, 2021

AS WE GATHER

There is nothing quite like being an eyewitness, giving a special perspective to share on the event. Peter writes about being on the Mount of Transfiguration as he, James, and John were privileged to have a special vision of the Lord Jesus Christ. He states: “We were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 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,’ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain” (2 Peter 1:16b–18). Today, through the words of Scripture, we, too, become eyewitnesses and are given a glimpse of glory in the vision of our transfigured Lord!

The pottery vessels on the altar remind us that although Holy Communion is not celebrated today, our Lord’s sacred gifts are still central to our life of faith. Holy Communion is celebrated every 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekend (and major festivals).

Liturgical Color:

White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church.

PreludeLorraine Miller, Roy Schache, Rich Vanderburgh
“Whispering Hope”, Alice Hawthorne (1827-1902)

Welcome

Stand

Gathering Hymn..... *“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”* #411(1-2)



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.

Refrain

In Him there is no dark - ness at all.
 The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

Morning Prayer

Opening Verses..... page 235

L O Lord, o - pen my lips,
C and my mouth shall de - clare Your praise.

C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



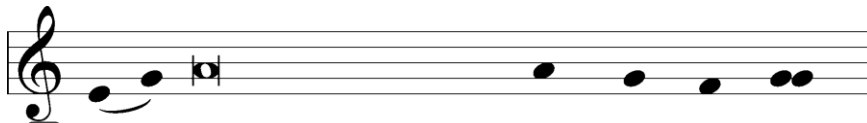
as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody

Antiphon..... page 235



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite..... page 236



C O come, let us sing to the Lord;



let us make a joy-ful noise to the rock of our sal-va - tion.



I Let us come in - to His pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing;



let us make a joy - ful noise to Him with songs of praise.



II For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods.



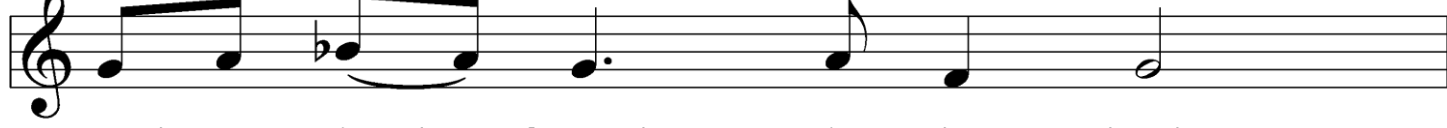
I In His hand are the depths of the earth;



the heights of the mountains are His also.



II The sea is His, for He made it;



and His hand formed the dry land.



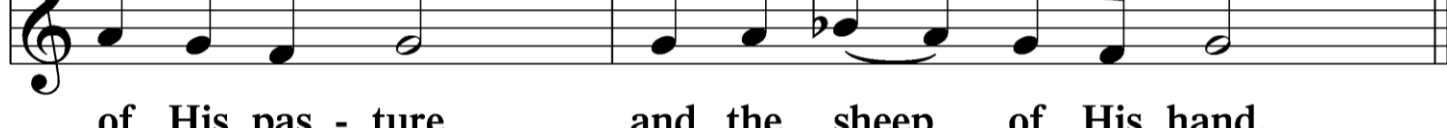
I O come, let us worship and bow down;



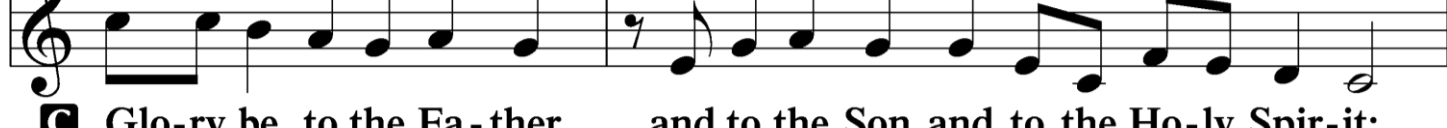
let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.




II For He is our God, and we are the people



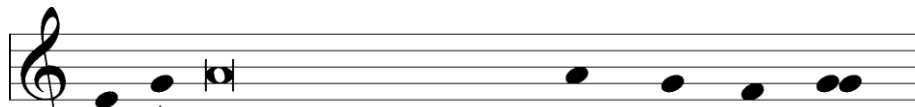
of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm 50:1-6..... *(spoken in unison)*

The Mighty One, God the Lord,
 speaks and summons the earth
 from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
 God shines forth.

Our God comes; he does not keep silence;
 before him is a devouring fire,
 around him a mighty tempest.

He calls to the heavens above
 and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

“Gather to me my faithful ones,
 who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

The heavens declare his righteousness,
 for God himself is judge!

Office Hymn..... *“’Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here” #414*



| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|--------|-------|-------|-----|--------|-----|
| 1 | 'Tis | good, | Lord, | to | be | here! | Thy |
| 2 | 'Tis | good, | Lord, | to | be | here, | Thy |
| 3 | Ful - | fill - | er | of | the | past | And |
| 4 | Be - | fore | we | taste | of | death, | We |
| 5 | 'Tis | good, | Lord, | to | be | here! | Yet |



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,
 beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -
 hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y
 see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the
 we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us



like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.
 li - jah stand, Thy mes - sen - gers of old.
 glo - ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.
 vi - sion bright And make this hill our home.
 leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sit

Readings

Old Testament Reading..... Exodus 34:29-35

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the Lord had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

Whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1-6

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what

was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

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

Holy Gospel Mark 9:2-9

After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sit

Sermon.....“Lifting the Veil”

Stand

Hymn of Praise..... “Jesus on the Mountain Peak” #415 (1, 4)

1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak Stands a - lone in
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets
glo - ry blaz - ing; Let us, if we dare to speak,
sing be - fore Him, First and Last and on - ly One.
Join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.
All cre - a - tion shall a - dore Him!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: © 1977 Hope Publishing Co., Tune: © 1998 Theodore A. Beck Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003555

Offering

Offering plates will not be passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the entrance.

“Through him (Jesus) then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” (Hebrews 13:15-16)

Stand

Prayers

Collect of the Day *(spoken in unison)*

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 foreshowed 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.

Additional Collects

Lord's Prayer *page 241*

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.

Benedicamus *page 241*

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction *page 242*

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn *"Alleluia, Song of Gladness" #417 (3, 4)*

3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways Be our song while
4 There - fore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, bless - ed

here be - low; Trin - i - ty, Al - le - lu - ia, our trans - gres - sions
At the last to keep Thine Eas - ter

Make us for a while for - go; For the sol - emn
With Thy faith - ful saints on high; There to Thee for -

time is com - ing When our tears for sin must flow.
ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal (Bethlehem’s Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

PostludeLorraine Miller, Roy Schache, Rich Vanderburgh

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Next week’s readings:
Genesis 22:1-18; James 1:12-18; Mark 1:9-15

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Attendance Last Saturday: 15 | Attendance Last Sunday: 39 |
| Total Offering: \$9,122.00 | Missions: \$482.00 |
| Home Use: \$8,640.00 | Benevolences: \$0.00 |

Serving us today:

- Elders/Ushers..... Jack Easterwood
- Musicians Lorraine Miller, Roy Schache, Rich Vanderburgh
- Altar Committee..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Karon Harding,
Esther Keseman, Georgia Luker
- Flower Committee Penny Humphrey (Chair), Sheree Moody

This Week's Schedule

| | | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Today | 1:00 p.m. | Youth Catechesis |
| Monday | 10:00 a.m. | Moms and Tots at the Park |
| Tuesday | 6:00 p.m. | Mission Board Meeting |
| Wednesday | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Wednesday Communion Service |
| Thursday | 9:30 a.m. | Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Mary-Martha Guild Meeting (rescheduled date) |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Jesus' Last Week-Zoom Bible Study |
| Saturday | 10:00 a.m. | Elders' Meeting |
| | 11:00 p.m. | Trustees' Meeting |
| | 11:00 p.m. | Trail Blazer Workday |
| | 5:30 p.m. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday | 8:00 a.m. | The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9 |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at www.blchurch.com , under the Sermons tab) |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School—Jr. and Sr. Youth |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Holy Communion |

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization & rehabilitation: Leora Baack (Charlene McCarter's mother), Pr. Ricky Bertels, Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Roy Hillmann (Bonnie Rich's father), Don Hillsman, Sharon Hochsprung, Mary Johnson, Creed Kueker (Pr. Jesse Kueker's son—Trinity, Clinton), Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Troy McCarter (Lloyd McCarter's brother), Kathy Marshall, Johnny Nichol, Jim Rudy, Cindy Smith, Caleb Thomas, Lynne Trimble (Kaye Fair's sister), and Paula Willis (Bonnie Rich's friend).

We remember as well all who are dealing with COVID—19, especially the healthcare providers who are straining to prevent, stem the spread, and treat those who are ill!

For Pregnant Mothers, especially Brittany Brown as she and her husband Joe await childbirth this year. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation!

For Seminarian Jonathan Sharp (and his wife Bridgette) as he continues his studies and prepares to receive his vicarage assignment at the end of April.

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter, Ethan Hillsman, Chance Hillsman and Logan LeBaige.

Worship Services (Masks required at all services)

Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. You can also watch it live on Facebook or YouTube, or go to it directly from the webpage at blchurch.com.

Saturday Services are at 5:30 p.m. The order of worship is the shorter service of Early Evening Prayer. Holy Communion is observed on 1st, 3rd and 5th weekends of the month, as has been our regular practice.

An Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be held **this Wednesday the 17th at 7:00 p.m.** As we undertake the Lenten call of addressing our troubles, carrying our crosses in Christ, and emerging anew in Easter life, we'll focus on the root cause of disobedience we need to RELENT from—"Rebelliousness."

Re⁺lent means "to give up or abandon—to become less severe, to soften" and is of central importance to the passage from Joel that sets the tone for Lent: "Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God?" (2:13b-14). **Re-** is a prefix meaning "to go back or retrace to the original—to do again." In the season of **Lent** (which has its origin in the root of the word "length"), we head through lengthening daylight toward Easter/spring and find that as we face what darkens our lives. Join us for the following Wednesday Services as we discover anew the blessing of loss and gain through the cross and resurrection of Jesus. **February 24-Excuses, March 3-Lambasting, March 10-Excess, March 17-Negativity, & March 24-Trashing.**

Service Opportunities

Jeremiah 29:11 Warehouse Membership—Bethlehem has teamed up with three other congregations in town (Warrensburg Church of the Brethren, The Potter's House Evangelical Free Church, and Mt. Calvary Apostolic Church)—under the name Partners in Christ—to belong to this worthwhile community endeavor. Operating under the Manna Harvest umbrella, the warehouse enables local nonprofits to access product philanthropy (mostly from Amazon, Walmart, and CVS) for the meeting of their needs and those they serve. This is large-scale gleaning that prevents wastage and allows for the flourishing of wise stewardship. The annual membership cost for Partners in Christ is \$1,200, which is split equally by the four

congregations, so that provides a total of \$12,000 in “purchasing power” at the warehouse throughout the year—\$3,000 for us and each partner. Darlene Laubenstein (Mission Board chair), Rebecca Stewart (Congregational Life Facilitator), and Pastor Joel are Bethlehem’s three access people. If you would like to learn more, visit www.mannaharvestinc.org.

Hygiene Product Collection—during the month of February, Mary-Martha Guild and the Mission Board will be collecting hygiene products for Nursing Homes and the Food Center. There is a container by the north entrance where you can leave items that you would like to donate. Some things might include shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc. These things are extremely needed and will be very much appreciated!

Food Center Needs: pouch tuna, canned meats, cake mixes and icing, diapers, jelly in squeezable bottles. Other staples are also welcome. Donations can be dropped off at 137 E. Culton, **T & TR, 1-4 pm & Saturday, 9-11 am** or left at the north church entrance in the round barrel by the bulletin board.

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Let It FLOW!—All junior and senior high youth are welcomingly encouraged to attend this Bible study being led by Pr. Joel on every Sunday morning **from now until February 21st** (in the downstairs youth room) **from 9:30—10:10 a.m.** We’re focusing on what Jesus meant about coming “**For the Life Of the World**” and what that means for us and the purpose of our lives. Each session includes viewing a superb video and having a discussion that bridges us from there to Scripture and daily life. So, whether you attend Sunday school every week, hardly ever, or never, please consider attending this excellent and engaging study before it’s over! Jeremy VanWey will be starting **a new one on the 28th** that will be exploring C.S. Lewis’s classic on the wily ways of evil, *The Screwtape Letters*.

Zoom Bible Study—Open to Everyone. This Bible study began is being held weekly on **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** We’re looking at “**Jesus’ Final Week**” from Palm Sunday, the Last Supper, and the trial to Jesus’ death and resurrection. Focusing on these events will bring new understanding to who Jesus is and how he loves us. **Please contact Cindy or Rebecca if you are interested in joining this class so that we can get materials out to you.** It’s not too late to join!

Resuming Romans Study on Sunday Mornings! To all who attended the Sunday Bible study last year and didn’t think we’d finish Romans by the end of the year, you were right! We will be **resuming on the 28th from 9:30-10:10 a.m.**, keeping it a bit shorter while still packing a lot in. We’ll be meeting in the conference room, unless you hear otherwise. Please consider joining us!

Fellowship

Mary-Martha Guild Meeting has been rescheduled to **Thursday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m.** Please bring your personal hygiene items to the meeting.

Miscellaneous

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain and needing to talk and be encouraged in the living of life from day to day, don't hesitate to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Offerings

You can mail your offerings to Bethlehem and have pastor put it in the offering plate on the altar with a prayer of trust for you, or you can give through the online offering called "*Simply Giving*".

Elders

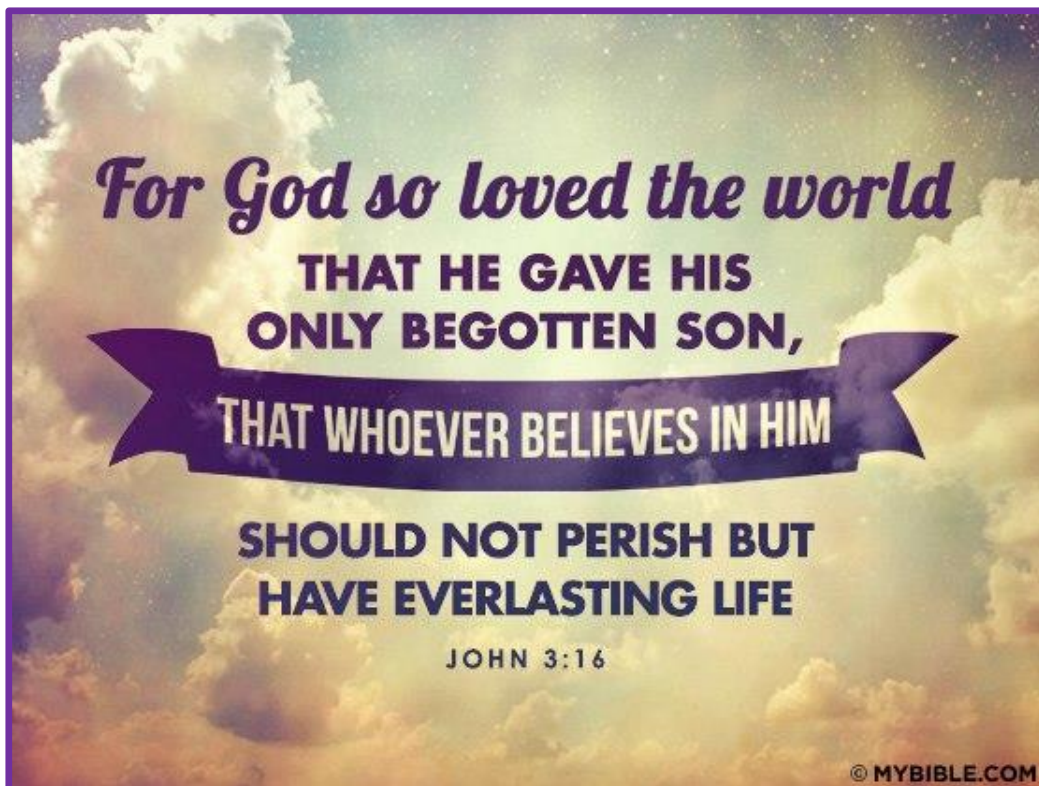
Jeff Harris (last name begins A-E) 660-624-1571, elvis100669@yahoo.com

Willie Crespo (last name begins F-H) 660-679-8121, willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com

Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, easter.egg2380@gmail.com

Caleb Thomas (last name begins Mc-R) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com

Jeremy VanWey (last name begins S-Z) 606-909-4765, jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com



Contact Information

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am–5pm

Otherwise by appointment

Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: pastor@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am–5pm

660-747-6742

officemanager@blchurch.com

Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart

MTW: 8am–2pm

Thursday by appointment

clf@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 3pm–6pm

Thursday by appointment

financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for the viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.