

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Transfiguration Sunday March 2, 2025

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 4, page 147

† Congregation stands as able

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



P. Blessed be God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit.

C. And blessed be God's kingdom now and forever. Amen.

P. Most merciful God,

C. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"How Good, Lord, to Be Here!"

ELW #315

Kyrie

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This Is the Feast

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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.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Katherine Kelly

First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹Moses 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. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but 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, ³⁵the 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

Tone 5

¹The LORD is king; let the ^l people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let ^l the earth shake.

²**The LORD, ^l great in Zion,
is high a- ^lbove all peoples.**

³Let them confess God's name, which is ^l great and awesome;
God is the ^l Holy One.

⁴**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- ^ltablished equity;
you have executed justice and righteous- ^lness in Jacob.**

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD
and fall down be- ^lfore God's footstool;
God is the ^l Holy One.

⁶**Moses and Aaron among your priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon your ^l name, O LORD,
they called upon you, and you ^l answered them,**

⁷you spoke to them out of the pil- ^llar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree ^l that you gave them.

⁸**O LORD our God, you answered ^l them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their ^l evil deeds.**

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's ^l holy hill;
for the LORD our God is the ^l Holy One.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 3:17-4:2

¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And 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. ²We 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

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Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now 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. ³³Just 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. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen listen to him!" ³⁶When 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.**

Sermon

The Exodus of Jesus and Ours

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards



Hymn of the Day

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"

ELW #317

Nicene Creed

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.**

You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church,
the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

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,

C: 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,

C: 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,

C: 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,

C: 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,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all those who have asked us to pray for them...

C: hear our prayer.

A: Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people especially Margarete Walsh, Patricia Bonaker and Betty Davidson. We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward. God of grace,

C: 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.

MEAL

Anthem

"Beautiful Savior"

Choir

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance of 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 Page 152

Holy, Holy, Holy Page 153

Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who..." Page 154

Lamb of God Page 154

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Each person may respond, Amen.

† Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

A: 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.

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

ELW #318

Dismissal

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

The Memorial Book is open today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Kathryn Schiavone, 2022



Happy March
Birthday



8 Aidan Gardner	17 Callie Gardner
9 Eileen Barrs	18 Debbie Owen
9 Jon Hoag	24 Joseph Steinagel
14 Erin Thies	26 Evelyn Seames
15 Brandon Hoag	27 Rev. Grace Burton Edwards



READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
 Romans 10:8b-13
 Luke 4:1-13



"The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." —Martin Luther

February 23, 2025
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

ATTENDANCE —66

(IN-PERSON— 52, YOUTUBE - 14)

OFFERING

Benevolence	\$	3,395.00
Building	\$	160.00
Memorial	\$	550.00
Other	\$	0.00
Total	\$	4,105.00

Save the Date

- March 3rd - 11:00 - Chair Yoga - Luther Hall
- March 4th - 10:15 - Bible Study (bring lunch) - Church House
- March 5th - 5:30 - Ash Wednesday Service
- March 7th - 10:00 - Craf-Tea - Luther Hall
- March 12th - 5:30 - Wednesday Lenten Service
- March 15th - 10-12:00 - Yard Sale Drop-off dates
- March 20th - 5:00 - Council Meeting
- March 27th - 5:30 - Men's Group - Fellowship Hall

Serving March 2, 2025

Opener/Closer	Katherine Kelly
Worship Assistant	Dave & Matt Bonaker
Communion Assistant	Cecil McGouirk
Lector	Shannon Gardner
Ushers	Sandy Craven Randy Craven
Altar Guild	Catherine Sayers Rose Johnson
Live Streaming	Jaxson Gardner

Serving March 9, 2025

Opener/Closer	Allena Sperry
Worship Assistant	Shannon Gardner
Communion Assistant	Katherine Kelly
Lector	Bill Wallace
Ushers	Jim Sperry Bill Wallace
Altar Guild	Nancy Gates Terri Niederhammer
Live Streaming	Paul Hicks

Pray Without Ceasing



“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

—1 Thessalonians

5:16-18

The Armed Forces,
their families,
and victims of war

Persecuted Christians

The ministries of
St. Matthew

Bishop Kevin
Strickland

Southeastern Synod
Staff

Pastor Taylor Burton
Edwards

St Matthew
Congregational
Council

Laura Alexander
Carol Bingemann

Dave Bonaker

Matt Bonaker

Davidson Family

Myrna & Ken Hoag

Mairetha & Bennie
Jackson

Sean Jeffery

Marga Miller

Charlotte Moore

Traudel Mosely

Terri Niederhammer

Debby Owen

Dorothy Redden

Connie Sieg

Allena Sperry

Carla Stickles

Albert VanHousen II

Harold Vinson

Eric & Tinisha Bryant

George Capps

Jim Chappel

Jean Clemmons

Xavier Danguilan

Penny Davis & Family

Lynne Funck

Brandy Garnett

Mike Gewin

Moses Glidden

Becky Goldsmith

Estrella Gonzales

Doris Grier

Petra & Franklin

Henderson

Norma Kilby

Ken Korn

Emma Kump

Melissa Lancheros

Laura & Boyd Lester

Robert Lowe

Michelle Matthias

Sandra McPeters

Brady Meeks

Tim Moore

Moser Family

Nearhoof Family

Angela Paul

Vincent Pawlowski

Beth Price

Mark Purushotham

Bill Rahm

Tiffany Richardson

Ruocco Family

Dayna Ryan

Shirley Scott

Dou Shizhen

Ricky Skinner

Amanda Steinagel

Torrijos Family

Fred Turpin

Charlie VanHousen

Dawn VanHousen

Molly Wright

Martha Zimmerman

Israel

Ukraine

Gaza

Lebanon

Western North Carolina

New Orleans

Los Angeles

Vance Brooks Funeral
Service

Striffler Hamby Funeral
Service

El Carrizo

E&S Clothing

One Financial

Tasha's Dance & Prep

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to St. Matthew: Jesus Christ offers himself to all. May you be blessed as we celebrate God's love for us. All the baptized are invited to feast with us at the Lord's Table. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday.

We invite you to join our congregation if you have not yet found a church home. We are people of God that share a living, daring, confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, questions, complexities and all. Join us, as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Nursery: St. Matthew provides nursery service for children ages 6 and younger. All children are welcome to attend worship with their families. If a child needs a break during the service, they may sit with a parent/guardian in the Narthex.

Mission Outreach Opportunities:

Mission Focus:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| | Wynnton Neighborhood Network |
| • Lion's Club: | Glasses, sunglasses and old cell phones |
| • Family House of West GA: | Pop tabs |
| • Flags to Retire: | Bring used American flags that you no longer want or need. |
| • St. Anne's: | Feminine hygiene products, Personal hygiene products (travel size), toilet paper, and non-perishable food items |
| • Safe House | Sealed plastic utensils (take-out meals) |
- Leave donations in the labeled containers in the Narthex between bathrooms.

Craf-Tea: This group will meet Fridays 10:00-12:00 PM in Luther Hall. If you enjoy crafts and tea, this group is for you! Please see Beth Hoag for more information.

Men's Group: This group meets the 4th Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be March 27th at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Chair Yoga: We are meeting every Monday at 11:00 AM in Luther Hall. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. If you need transportation, please contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001.

LENTEN CHALLENGE!

Lenten challenge begins Ash Wednesday! Here is your challenge: Each day of Lent, place an unwanted items in a box or bag for donation to our annual yard sale. Drop off dates for yard sale donations at the Sieg building from 10-noon are:

March 15th, April 12th, May 17th and June 7th.

Thank you for participating and good luck on the challenge!

Shrove Tuesday



St Thomas Episcopal Church
5:30 PM, MARCH 4, 2025

Lent Worship Schedule

ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 5

5:30 P.M.

LENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP

EVENING PRAYER

MARCH 12, 19, 26

APRIL 2, 9

5:30 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17
7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 18
7:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 19 - 10:00 AM

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement



Reach in to grow in Christ
Reach up to worship God
Reach out to welcome and witness

ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4026 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia 31907

(706) 561-3406 - Office Hours - Tues & Thurs 2:00-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00-1:00 PM

Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards Email: twbe@liturgyfolks.com

Phone: (765) 602-1426

Office email : office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

Southeastern Synod

www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457/streams>

The Rev. Taylor Burton Edwards, Pastor

Sonja Metcalf, Parish Administrator

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Penny Davis, Nursery Director