

Welcome to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

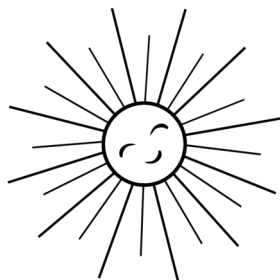


Sunday Worship

Rev. Jamie Retallack
716-848-9683

Transfiguration of Our Lord
Last Sunday after Epiphany
Sunday, February 15, 2026

The Prelude
The Greetings



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.**

Shine, Jesus, Shine

1. Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, In the
 2. Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, From the
 3. As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, So our



midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing. Je - sus, Light of the
 shad - ows in - to your ra - diance; By the blood I may
 fac - es dis - play your like - ness, Ev - er chang - ing from



world, shine up - on us; Set us free by the truth you now
 en - ter your bright - ness; Search me, try me, con - sume all my
 glo - ry to glo - ry, Mir - rored here, may our lives tell your



bring us: Shine on me; Shine on me.
 dark - ness: Shine on me; Shine on me.
 sto - ry: Shine on me; Shine on me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.



Blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, riv - er, flow,



flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word,



Lord, and let there be light!

The 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.

The First Reading Exodus 24:12-18

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.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. 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.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 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. 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. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 2
(Read Responsively)

Why are the nations in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

**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?**

“Let us break their yoke,” they say;
“let us cast off their bonds from us.”

**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the Lord holds them in derision.**

Then in wrath God speaks to them,
and in rage fills them with terror.

**“As for me, I have anointed my king
upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**

Let me announce the decree of the Lord,
who said to me, “You are my son;
this day have I begotten you.

**Ask of me, and I will give you
the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

**And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

Submit to the Lord with fear,
and with trembling bow in worship;

**lest the Lord be angry,
and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.
Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

The Second Reading
2 Peter 1:16-21

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. 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.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

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

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel Reading Matthew 17:1-9 **Glory to you, O God.**

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

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.”

This is the Word of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

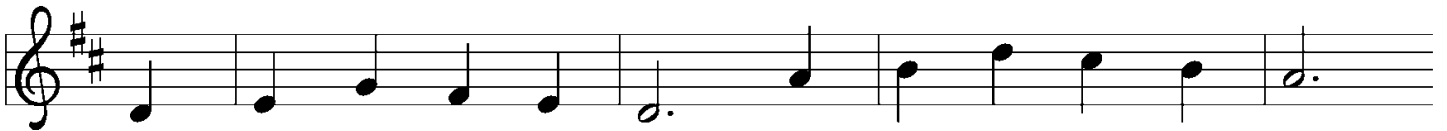
The Sermon
Rev. Jamie Retallack



Hymn of the Day

LBW 89

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



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

Prayers of Intercession

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 (*regions at war may be named*). 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 (especially Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Jillian Graap, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, and Gloria Richards.) Comfort the dying and those who grieve. 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.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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.**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

The Prayers of the Church

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.**

The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Offering

The Offering Music

The Offertory Hymn



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune
Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

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The Offertory Prayer

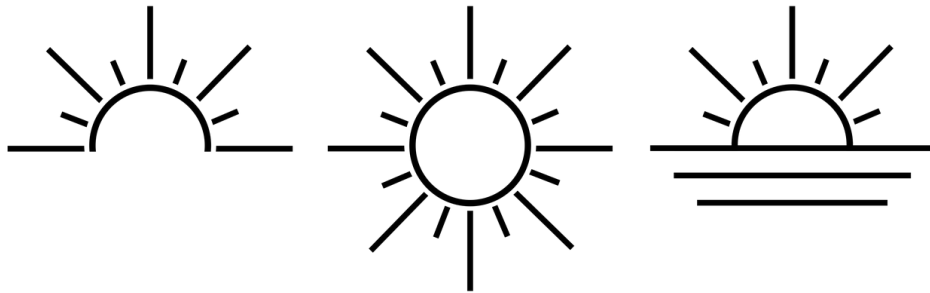
God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

The Preface

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:



The Sanctus

The musical notation for the Sanctus consists of five staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks He 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, poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Invitation

The Lamb of God



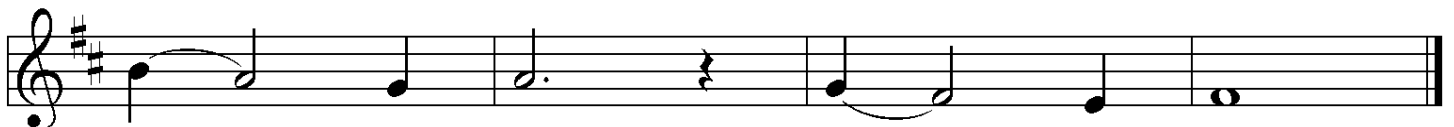
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Music
LBW 212, WOV 709

The Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**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.**

The Sending Prayer

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.**

The Benediction

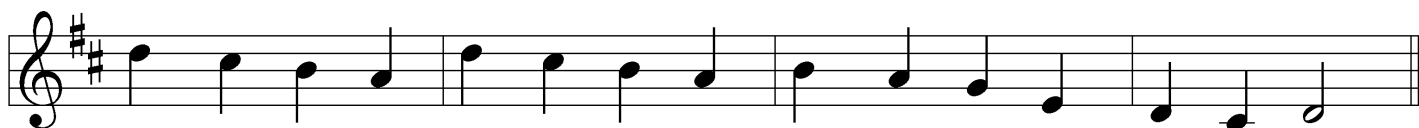
Alleluia, Song of Gladness



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Lead our prais - es, 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,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a 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.
 but by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles now 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 M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880



The Sending
 Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

The People of St. John's Welcome You for Worship Today!

If you would like a **pastoral visit** for any reason, please call the office or call Pastor directly on his cell @ (716) 848-9683.

Office Hours:

St John's Lancaster M, W, Th 10am-3pm.

St John's Elma Tuesdays 10am-3pm.

Offering

2/8/2026

\$ 1812.00

Quarterly Statements available upon request.

If you would like to receive quarterly statements by mail, please let the office know.

QR Code for Offering

Using your camera app you can scan the QR code to go to **St. John's donation page** where you can make a one-time or recurring **offering!** Thank you for giving!



Collecting Dash's Register Receipts: Save your Dash's receipts and deposit them in the boxes in the Sanctuary or the Chapel to benefit Niagara Lutheran Health Services. Thank you!

Family Fun Night @ Lancaster: Come join us in the Fellowship Hall @ Lancaster on February 20th from 7-9pm for BINGO Night! This is a free event. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Great prizes and Fun for All!

Altar Flower Arrangements:
as of **January 1, 2026**, flower arrangements are \$40 (for 2).

Available Flower Dates: Feb. 22 Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Altar Guild: Kathy Snyder
Deacon: Kathy Snyder
Ushers: Janet Sincebaugh & rich Rice

Grape juice & gluten free wafers are available for **Communion**

We lift up: Edna Mann, Tom Morse, Jackie Wolfram, Dave, Lee Babirad, Sara Hermsmeyer, Eoin Mast, Arden Kruger, Jillian Graap, Anna Hart, Kelly R., Bryce, Mary Anne, Paul Rudz, Rob Webster, Jake, and Gloria Richards.

New Choir Practice Time
Choir will now practice on Sundays 11:05-11:20am.
All are welcome to join!

Women's Group Lunch
will be at Olive Tree on Wed, Mar 11 at 11:30.
Please sign up by Mar 8.

Ash Wednesday Worship @ Lancaster February 18th @ 7pm.

BOOK CLUB: Please join us at the Conference Table downstairs in the Chapel Hall at St. John's Lancaster (using the ramp entrance) on Wednesday, February 25th at 2:30 PM
The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride by Joe Siple

YOUTH EVENTS

Feb. 21, 9:00 – 11:00am	Can food drive for Poppi's Pantry. Youth to collect pantry donations.
Feb. 22, 11:00am – 2:00pm	Collect additional food drive donations. Outdoor scavenger hunt... (let's explore our village!) Snacks and beverages provided. Dress appropriately for weather.

Poppi's Pantry is serving residents of the Lancaster Towers on **Mondays from 11-2**. We are seeking volunteers to assist during this time. Kindly consider donating time to help. There is a sign-up sheet on the door to the pantry. Thank you!

Poppi's Pantry is extremely grateful for all donations. If you are looking for donation ideas, you may want to consider: cereal/oatmeal, canned meats (chicken, spam), canned meals (Hash, Dinty Moore stew), small cans dog/cat food, pasta sauce (including Alfredo) and single serving pudding and/or gelatin cups (including sugar free), Thank you!

One Call Now: One Call Now is the automated phone service we use to make "robo calls" to the congregation with closings, updates, event information and general reminders. If you are not receiving calls but would like to, please leave a note, send an email, or call the office with the best phone number we can use to reach you. Thank you.

Directory Updates: If you have not yet, please help us by submitting to the office any changes to your records: name, phone number/s, address, etc. Thank you!

Follow us on Facebook [@stjohnslancaster](#)

Food Drive

Canned Goods & Cereal

St. John's Youth Group

- will drop off boxes or bags if needed

- will pick up donations if desired

Call 716-683-8972

**You Drop Off @ St. John's
or We Pick-Up**

February 21st 9am-Noon

February 22nd 11am-2pm

All donations to benefit
Poppi's Pantry
@ St. John's Lancaster

Sponsored by
St. John's Youth Group
55 Pleasant Ave
Lancaster NY 14086



This Week at-a-Glance

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Good News Articles Due		
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Joysingers	9:30am	
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Sunday School	10:00am	
Coffee Hour	11:00am	Memorial Lounge
Choir Practice	11:05am - 11:20am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs

Monday, February 16, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Girl Scouts	6:00pm	Fellowship Hall
Chordsmen	7:30pm	Chapel

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Quilters	9:30am	Fellowship Hall
NA Meeting	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Ash Wednesday Worship	7:00pm	St. John's Lancaster

Thursday, February 19, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Church Office Hours	10:00am - 3:00pm	Church Office
Bible Study	1:00pm	Chapel - Conference Area
Handbell Practice	6:30pm	Balcony

Friday, February 20, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Family Fun Night	7:00pm	Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Event	Time	Location
YOUTH: Pantry Food Drive	9:00am - 11:00am	
In Person Service	5:30pm	Chapel

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Event	Time	Location
Bible Study	9:00am	Memorial Lounge
Joysingers	9:30am	
In Person/ Online Service	10:00am	Sanctuary
Sunday School	10:00am	
YOUTH: Pantry Food Drive	11:00am - 2:00pm	
Choir Practice	11:05am - 11:20am	Choir Room - Off of the Chapel Downstairs
Confirmation Class	11:15am	

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides an inviting environment for spreading God's Word through worship, teaching, and fellowship to address the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.
Open - Inviting - Alive in Christ!

Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)
Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson -Rev. John Scarafia
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Office 683-8972 (Mon-Wed-Thurs 10am-3pm)
www.stjohnslanc.org
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

Congregation Council

Janet Sincebaugh (President)
Carol Graham (Vice-President)
Karen McClintock (Secretary)
Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)

Pauline Bauer	Jeff Miller
Tom Frost	Rich Rice
Sam Gierlinger	Paul Rudz
RaeAnn Jakubowski	Kelly Sieracki
Marjorie Kruger	

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