

*St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church*

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 14, 2021

8:30 AM



## OUR MISSION

As a Lutheran community of faith, we continue our history of proclaiming Christ crucified through Word and Sacrament in joyful service to God and our neighbor.

### ***WELCOME TO ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH***

We welcome all who worship with us today. We gather as the Body of Christ to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise to God. Ushers are available to answer any of your questions. The church is equipped with a hearing impaired system. If you need a listening device, it may be obtained from an usher. In the minutes prior to the beginning of each service, the doors to the nave are closed, and quiet is encouraged. Music is offered which prepares worshipers to receive God's gifts from His Hand – the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

Everyone is asked to sign the Attendance Record found at the end of each pew or row of chairs. Please sign this record and pass it down to those beside you during the announcements. As it is returned, please note who is worshipping with you. The Attendance Record helps worshipers to put names and faces together. We make new friends in this way and grow in care for each other.

**Celebrating Holy Communion:** We believe, teach, and confess Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. All baptized Christians, who share this belief, are invited to receive Jesus as He comes in the Holy Communion to forgive the sins of the penitent. Children and others who are not yet receiving the sacrament, or who choose not to commune with us, are invited to come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest.

During this Covid-19 season, specific instructions for communion will be given by the Pastor. Please receive the host in your flattened palm. If you cannot receive alcohol, please inform the Pastor before the host is dipped in the chalice. If you need gluten free host, please ask before the host is dipped in the chalice.

**The Altar Flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God and given by Denis and Janet Hall, and by Jim and Sheila Whitmeyer in loving memory of their parents, David Adams, and Jeannette Pressman.

**Sunday School** is sponsored by Carol and Harry Comeskey to the Glory of God.

**WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!** On this Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord, we celebrate that Jesus Christ is truly God and truly human. As our Lord Jesus Christ appears in glory on the Mount of Transfiguration with Moses and Elijah, the glorious Light of God shines forth through Him. This vision carries us through the difficult days of our Lenten journey and reminds us Who suffers and dies for us on Calvary's cross. Today is the last day we sing "Alleluia" until the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 3, at 6 p.m.

I will strive to ..... **Pray daily**  
**Worship weekly**  
**Read the Bible**  
**Serve at and beyond St. Matthew's**  
**Be in Relationship to encourage spiritual growth in others**  
**Give of my time, talents and resources**



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(\* Please stand as you are able.)

## Silence for Meditation

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

#### \* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Let us make confession to God.

**Congregation: Almighty God, merciful Father:**

**I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. Through his Holy Spirit he cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of his light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

#### \* OPENING HYMN

*Soon and Very Soon*

(page 10)

### THE GREETING

Pastor: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

#### \* THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, at the glorious Transfiguration of your only Son you confirmed the mystery of our faith by the witness of the fathers and by your own voice from the cloud. Mercifully complete our adoption as your children and give us an inheritance with our King of his glory. Through the same Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

### FIRST LESSON: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup> And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup> And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." <sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup> The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." <sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. <sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." <sup>10</sup> And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." <sup>11</sup> And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 50:1-6**

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!**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,\* and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 3:12-13; 4:1-6**

<sup>12</sup>Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup>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...<sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**THE VERSE**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954  
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

**\* THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Pastor: The HOLY GOSPEL according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

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

**HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9**

<sup>2</sup> And 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, <sup>3</sup> and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> 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." <sup>6</sup> For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup> And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." <sup>8</sup> And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. <sup>9</sup> 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

**"The Word of God: Shines"**

**Pr. Zumwalt**

**\*THE HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

*Refrain*

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!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -  
 dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,  
 set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me:  
 Shine on me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick  
 Music: SHINE, JESUS, SHINE, Graham Kendrick

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

### \* THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Assisting Minister: Lord, in your mercy.

**Congregation: Hear our prayers.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \* THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

## THE OFFERING

*Only a Shadow*  
**Joyful Noise**

### \*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

### \*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Father of our glorious Lord,

**Congregation: be patient with our imperfect offerings. Accept them as our intention to serve your creatures in their need that your Christ may be all the more glorious through our love. Through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**\* COMMUNION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right...thanks and praise.

**People: Amen.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:  
 heav'n 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.

Music: LAND OF REST, American folk tune  
 Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation

**\* THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Pastor: You are indeed holy...now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

**\* THE LORDS PRAYER**

**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 DISTRIBUTION SONG**

*What Feast of Love*

1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?  
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?  
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what ho - ly drink from heav - en?  
 What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
 What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?  
 What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?  
 This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

**\* THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Assisting Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, you were transfigured in this bread and wine that we may have your saving presence and the glory of your forgiveness with new life. Come with us now to the places where we must be your disciples. We bless you now and evermore.

Congregation: Amen.

Congregation: I will strive to pray daily, worship weekly, read the Bible, serve at and beyond St. Matthew's, be in relationship to encourage spiritual growth in others, and give of my time, talents, and resources.

**\* THE BENEDICTION**

**\* THE CLOSING HYMN** *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises*

*Refrain – sung twice each time*

Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -  
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our

bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your

ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. *End*  
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

*Repeat stanza, then sing refrain*

I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African  
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

**\* THE DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE**

**LESSONS for NEXT WEEK:**

Genesis 9:8-17 , PSALM 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15

## Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
3 No more dy - in' there,  
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945  
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

## The Word of God: Shines

### Praying

O God, who, in the glorious Transfiguration of thy only-begotten Son hast confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of the Fathers, and who, in the voice that came from the bright cloud, didst in a wonderful manner foreshow the adoption of sons: mercifully vouchsafe to make us co-heirs with the King of his glory, and bring us to the enjoyment of the same; through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen” (*Service Book and Hymnal, 111*).

### Listening

*2 Corinthians 3:12* “*Since we have such a hope, we are very bold*”

Ambrosiaster [Late 4<sup>th</sup> century commentator on Paul’s letters]: “Paul is saying that we have a hope of seeing glory, not the kind that was on the face of Moses but the kind which the three apostles saw on the mountain when the Lord revealed himself. Therefore we ought to repay the love of God as far as we can by being more fervent in our love for him, who by cleansing us from our sins has given us this confidence. Now our confidence ought to increase, because what we eventually see will be in proportion to what we now believe” (*Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture: 2 Corinthians, 221*).

*2 Corinthians 3:13* “*not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face....*”

St. Augustine [Late 4<sup>th</sup> – early 5<sup>th</sup> century Bishop of Hippo Regius]: “It is not the Old Testament that is done away with in Christ but the concealing veil, so that it may be understood through Christ. That is, as it were, laid bare, which without Christ is hidden and obscure” (222).

*2 Corinthians 4:1* “*Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.*”

Ambrosiaster: “Paul attributes his perseverance not to human merit but to the mercy of God, which first cleanses a person, then makes him righteous, adopts him as a son of God and endows him with a glory like the glory of God’s own Son” (227).

*2 Corinthians 4:2* “*We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God’s word...*”

St. Gregory of Nyssa [4<sup>th</sup> century Bishop of Nyssa, Turkey]: “By doing all things in the light, we become the light itself, so that it ‘shines’ before others, which is the peculiar quality of light. And if we recognize Christ as ‘sanctification,’ in whom every action is steadfast and pure, let us prove by our life that we ourselves stand apart, being ourselves true sharers of his name, coinciding in deed and not in word with the power of his sanctification” (228).

*2 Corinthians 4:6* “*...to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*”

Theodoret [5<sup>th</sup> century Bishop of Cyrrhus, Turkey]: “Since the divine nature is invisible and always remains so, it is seen for what it is in the humanity of Jesus Christ which shines with divine light and sends out its rays” (230).

### Reflecting

1. Can others see the light of Christ shining through not only my face but my words and deeds?

## **Learning**

### **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (from Luther's Small Catechism)**

*As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household.*

#### **First**

*What is Baptism?*

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.

*What is that word of God?*

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

#### **Doing**

1. Pray for every unbaptized child and adult you know and for the child's parents, too. Place their pictures and/or names in a prominent place as a reminder to pray for them
2. Pray for your unchurched loved ones and friends. Place their pictures and/or names in a prominent place as a reminder to pray for them. Invite one or more of them to worship.
3. Discuss with your spouse, your family, or a friend what constitutes Holy Baptism and how that relates to the Lord Jesus being both true God and true man. Look at John 1:1,14.
4. Consult Lutheran Book of Worship, p. 180, for the daily lessons appointed for the week of Transfiguration and following (Year One) and read them daily before offering your prayers on behalf of your family, the world, our nation, our state, and our local communities.
5. Do your best to discover the date of your Baptism, the place, and the officiant. Make a regular practice of observing your baptismal birthday every year with dear ones.
6. Begin preparing yourself and your dear ones to keep a holy Lent, a time of baptismal renewal and of growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Sign up for the Lenten prayer retreat on Saturday, February 20, from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

#### **For Husbands and Wives**

Repeat daily: "I (name) take you (name) to be my wedded wife (husband), to have and to hold from this day forward; for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; to love and to cherish until death do us part, according to God's holy ordinance, and thereto I pledge you my faith."

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

*The family of Heather Baldwin (granddaughter of Bill Baldwin),  
The family of Linda Jones (mother of Britton Jones), John Raia, Tom Bowie, Judy Kettner,  
Donna and Larry Frankin, Barbara Teigland-Duff, Joanne Johnson, Helen Stansbury,  
Cary Murphrey, David Searle, Jane Dove, Ed Ludacer, Kris Ludacer, Dusty Pilcher, Maureen Richey*

**MEMBERS**

Nancy Fauser	Terry Miller	Carol Comeskey
Denis Hall	Joel Peterson	Lani Beuerman
Regina Ryder	Dwight Crim	Mandy Harrington
Keith Farmer	Ruth Rice	Patty Macino
Donna Siegmund	Al Birnstein	Pr. Marv Schedler
Alexandra Schwartz	Arthur Pease	Doris Ullman
Kenn Slocum	Judy Daniels	Raewyn McCombs
Ken Manning	Bill Baldwin	Rose Weidman
Harry Comeskey	Mike Thompson	Virginia Parisek
Pat Mahl	Janet Hall	Ruthann Getsinger
Jan Magnus	Helen Knoll	Walt Brehm
Denise Benoit	Arthur Moore	Judy Benson
Ruth Smith	Laura Gray	Kay Thompson
Liz Newbery	Jack and Marie Loflin	Fran Perry
George Schwenzer	Trevor Hornick	Lon Ostby
Charles Smith	Vivian Alexander	Maggie Hoyer

**FRIENDS/FAMILY OF MEMBERS**

Amie Knauer	Crosby James Asher	Frank Howell
Ava Smith	Joyce LaSala	Stan Brunt, Sr.
Albert Rossetti	Tracy Boandl	Virginia Mough
Jerry Knoll	Jane Dumire	Joe Acito
Journey Heyer	Lynn Howell	Al and Janet Glaeser
Lisa Holgerson	Melvin Proctor	Catera Larson
Viola Seip	Bishop Mayfield	Sigrid Emerling
Chris LaVoie	Fred Geuder	Barbara Colton
Richard Truax	Beth Jarrott	
Paul Rady	William Lawhorn	
Betsy Miller	Jean Langrall	

**REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:**

Bob Byrne	Margaret French	Jane McDougald
Elsie Cates	Ruthann Getsinger	Wayne McDougald
Frank Fauser	Jim Harshbarger	Virginia Parisek

<b><u>Operating Fund: January 2021</u></b>		
	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>	33,607.38	33,607.38
<b>Expenses:</b>	<u>37,969.22</u>	<u>37,969.22</u>
<b>Income/ (Loss)</b>	(4,361.84)	(4,361.84)

<b><u>Offerings Received through Feb. 7, 2021</u></b>	
<b>Required for February:</b>	40,351.00
<b>Received this month:</b>	<u>10,625.65</u>
<b>Still needed</b>	29,725.35

### Weekly Worship Schedule

Saturday - Eucharist, 6 p.m.    Sunday - Traditional Eucharist. 8:30 and 11 a.m.    Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
2nd and 4th Sundays - Contemporary Eucharist, 8:30 a.m.    Monday - Evening Prayer and Bible Study, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday - Eucharist and Healing Prayer, 12:00 p.m.

### This Week at St. Matthew's

#### ***Sunday, February 14 Transfiguration***

8:30 Contemporary Eucharist  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Traditional Eucharist  
12:30 Grief Support Group

#### ***Monday, February 15***

9:00 Counting Team - Finance Office  
12:00 Conversations  
6:00 Evening Prayer

#### ***Tuesday, February 16 Shrove Tuesday***

10:00 Staff Meeting - Rm. 117  
10:00 Prayer Group - Library  
5:00 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
6:30 Stephen Ministry

#### ***Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday***

8:30 Men's Breakfast Group - McCombs  
12:00 Ash Wed. Eucharist  
6:00 Crossways - McCombs  
6:00 Handbells  
6:00 Middle School Youth  
7:00 Ash Wed. Eucharist  
8:00 Adult Choir - Choir Room

#### ***Thursday, February 18***

10:00 Crossways - McCombs

#### ***Friday, February 19***

#### ***Saturday, February 20***

8:00 Lenten Prayer Retreat w/Pr. John Priest  
6:00 Eucharist

#### ***Sunday, February 21 First Sunday of Lent***

8:30 Traditional Eucharist  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Traditional Eucharist

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Lenten Prayer Retreat** is Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. "Praying the Psalms through Jesus" will be led by Pr. John Priest. A sign-up sheet is on the board in the Commons, and cost is \$10.

**Openings for March altar flowers: March 21 and 28.** Please see the chart posted in the Commons to sign up. If you are unable to make it to church and would like to sign up please contact Donna Capozio (dcaozio@stmatthewsch.org or 791-4582).

**The 2021 Church Directory** is available in the Commons. One per family, please. If you are unable to pick one up, please contact Donna Capozio if you would like it mailed to you. You may also bring back your old directories to be shredded.

**The new Sunday School Sponsor** sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Commons. If you are unable to make it to church at this time and would like to sign up please contact Donna Capozio (dcaozio@stmatthewsch.org or 791-4582).

#### **Offering Counters and Couriers are needed for 2021.**

Counting takes place on Monday mornings (Tuesday if Monday is a holiday), at 9 a.m. and takes about an hour. Couriers are notified when the count is ready to be taken to the bank. The sign-up sheet for January through June is on the board in the Commons. If you can, please sign up for a month, but whatever weeks you can help will be appreciated. Thank you!

#### **The St. Matthew's Endowment Fund has over \$30,000**

available for grant disbursements in 2021, and is currently accepting applications for requests. Applications are available from the Finance Office, and the deadline for all applications is April 25th.

**When planning to make additional donations** to the church, please consider the Contingency Fund. We have received about \$19,000 toward the Choir Room repairs but still could use \$20,000 more. Also remember, we still have a loan to repay of \$228,750 for the new roof and HVAC over McCombs. Donations to the Building Fund will help to reduce that debt. Thank you for your attention to these critical areas.

**If you are directing third party payments to the church** please let Joan Wazybok (finance@stmatthewsch.org) know the name of the institution and amount, so we know whom to credit. Checks received don't always indicate the donor's name.

**Finance has available numerous gift cards** to Lowe's Home Improvement, and Home Depot in \$50 and \$25 denominations. Please consider purchasing one or several to help with your home projects. Stop by the Christkindlmarkt table in the Narthex after the Services, or the Finance office (room 111 weekdays M-Thursday 9a-1p.) Thank you!

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**The Special Congregation Meeting** to vote on ELCA disaffiliation and selection of a new Lutheran denomination has been postponed indefinitely. Council will announce a date when the meeting can be conducted in a safe manor.

**As a reminder that in order to qualify to vote** at the Special Congregation Meeting (date TBD) you must be confirmed, have communed, and made a contribution of record in 2020 or 2021. **When giving cash for your contribution make sure your name is on the envelope in order to receive credit.**



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The Rev. Dr. Samuel D. Zumwalt    ♦    szumwalt@bellsouth.net





