

Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



Transfiguration

February 11, 2024

9:30 a.m.

BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT:

<http://www.bethanialutheran.org/bulletins/>

Order of Worship for Sunday, February 11, 2024

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

GATHERING

(Please rise)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Get ready! A miraculous thing is about to happen!

C: What is this!

P: The powerful light of Jesus will transform your lives!

C: But we are unworthy to receive this light.

P: Jesus himself has proclaimed you worthy and beloved. Come, and live in the light.

C: Praise be to God and to Jesus Christ who has healed and redeemed us. AMEN.

PROCESSIONAL & GATHERING HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling " #315

Lutheran Book of Worship, Green Hymnal

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P: Mighty one of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,
do not be silent, but speak, that we may hear.

**C: Speak justice, that we may correct our lawlessness.
Speak righteousness, that we may know your ways.
Speak compassion, that we may know your mercy.
Speak abundance, that we may serve others.
Speak understanding, that we may be peacemakers.
Speak glory, that we may know your Son.
Speak, and we will listen to you.**

P: You promise forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace
when we speak our shortcomings.

**C: We speak of mistakes we have made.
We speak of abandoning your ways.
We speak of failures to show compassion and mercy.
We speak of our need for forgiveness.**

P: Mighty one of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,
hear our prayer and lead us into fullness of life. Amen.

SALUTATION

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be seated)

WORD

OUR FIRST LESSON is from the book of 2 Kings, chapter 2, verses 1 through 12.

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "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. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, 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. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "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. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

OUR SECOND LESSON is from the book of First Corinthians; chapter 4, verses 3 through 6.

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In 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. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of

darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

L: This is the Spirit speaking to the church.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please rise)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(TFF #132)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were

terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

MESSAGE

(Please rise)

HYMN OF THE DAY -

"Beautiful Savior " #518

Lutheran Book of Worship, Green Hymnal

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

P: As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered his disciples to tell no one about what they had seen, for his time was not at hand.

C: **How can we keep silent when we have seen what we have seen and heard what we have heard? Will not the heavens proclaim it? Will not the earth announce such news?**

P: Yes, now is the day and now is the time, for Jesus Christ has died and is raised in glory.

C: Shout it to the highest mountain and announce it in the lowest valley: Jesus Christ, the glory of God, the Son of righteousness, the Prince of Peace, is here!

PRAYER SONG

(written by William Mueller)

$\text{♩} = 105$

In the Qui - et, Peace ful Pres - ence of this Place

May Our Prayer-ful com - mun-ion Re - flect God's Own Grace!

Join with us in sweet Si - lence, As we pray to end

Vio - lence. See Him Shine through us

All of our Days!

PRAYERS

P: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for any who are sick and suffering *especially* Jeff & Sue O., Anita, Grete, Heather, Bonnie, Bettie, Mike, Danielle, Sharon, Kim D. and all those we name in our hearts. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

PRAYER SONG (repeated)

$\text{♩} = 105$

In the Qui - et, Peaceful Pres - ence of this Place

May Our Prayer-ful com - mun-ion Re - flect God's Own Grace!

Join with us in sweet Si - lence, As we pray to end

Vio - lence. See Him Shine through us

All of our Days!

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: As Elisha would not leave Elijah,
may God forever keep us close in Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you .

(Shaking of hands and sharing the peace with others around you.)

OFFERTORY

(WOV # 649)

I want to walk as a child of the light,
I want to follow Jesus
God set the stars to give light to the world,
The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart Lord Jesus.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

Lord Jesus,
all that we have is yours,
and all that we are is yours.
In offering these tokens of our lives,
may all that we do
serve you to the glory of God.

. C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks,
Broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying;
This is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you
And for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.

P: Let us join our hearts and hands together in the prayer that our Lord taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come, the table is set. Let us eat the food that God has prepared for us. Let us drink the wine of the new covenant. Come, the table is set. All are welcome. Come.

(Please be seated)

SHARING THE MEAL

For in person, come up the center aisle, receive your communion wafer, carefully dip your wafer into the wine. If grape juice/ covid safe is preferred let the assistant know.

For at home using plain bread/crackers and wine/grape juice.

COMMUNION HYMN -

(ELW # 715)

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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(Please rise)

COMMUNION BLESSING

L: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us Pray,

Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.

Raise us to life by your power

for the benefit of all and to your glory,

now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Cry out!

C: God's word has been spoken.

P: Cry out!

C: Our hearts are filled with praise.

P: Cry out!

C: Our lives proclaim God's glory.

P: Cry out the bounty of God's love.

SENDING HYMN -

"We Are Marching In the Light of God"

#650

With One Voice—Blue Hymnal

RECESSIONAL

A: We follow the cross of Christ into the world.

Congregation turns as the cross passes them—so they are facing the back of the church)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



THE ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God and In Memory of my mom, Shirley Woodward on her birthday by her daughter Anne.

TODAYS WORSHIP LEADERS:

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: Julie Hansen

Communion Assistants: Julie Hansen & Vicki Thiery

Acolyte & Offering Presenter: Ed Young

Coffee Hour: Aebleskivers Altar Flowers: Anne Woodward

Building Host: Ed Young

WORSHIP LEADERS NEXT WEEK (Sunday 2/18/24):

Worship Leader: Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

Lector: Kelly Imhoff

Communion Assistants: Kelly Imhoff & Jerod Alderson

Acolyte & Offering Presenter: Kelly Imhoff

Coffee Hour: (Open) Altar Flowers: (Open)

Building Host: Kelly Imhoff

FAT SUNDAY AEBLSKIVER BUNCH

TODAY—February 11

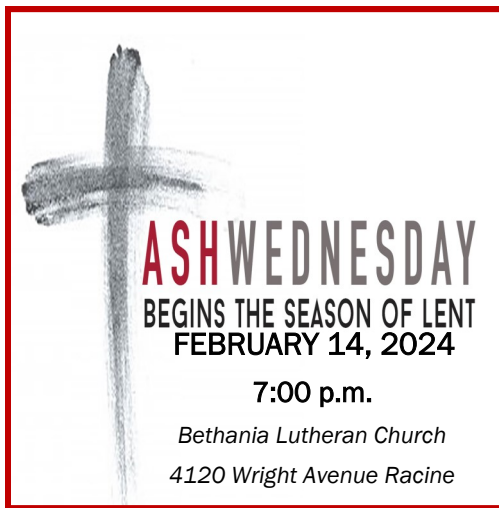
Following worship

~Free will Offering~

**Aebleskivers, Medisterpølse fruit coffee Juice &
Milk**

Bring your favorite Jam or Jelly





ASH WEDNESDAY
 BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT
FEBRUARY 14, 2024
7:00 p.m.
Bethania Lutheran Church
4120 Wright Avenue Racine



Pastoral CARE
 For pastoral care, or if you need to reach Pastor Paul, his phone number is **269-290-4533**



Wednesday Lenten SERVICES

12:30 p.m. for bread & soup

Worship at 1:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. for bread & soup

Worship at 6:00 p.m.

Please note: there will be NO 12:30 p.m. Worship on Wednesday, March 20.

DATE	PLACE	ADDRESS	PASTOR
February 21	REDEEMER	2417 Drexel Ave,	Rev. Matt James
February 28	Journey In Faith	6767 Hwy 38 Franksville	Rev. Allison Johnson
March 6	Living Faith	2915 Wright Avenue	Rev, Justin Kierzek
March 13	United Lutheran	3825 Erie Street	Rev. John Bishoff
March 20	BETHANIA	2915 Wright Avenue	



Join Us for “Gospel Talk”: Sundays, after the Coffee Hour, between 11:00 and 11:15 am, ending around noon. Pastor Paul is hosting “Gospel Talk” which will continue next Sunday so we can enjoy the

Aebleskiver Breakfast this morning. The first goal of “Gospel Talk” is to offer conversation about the day’s sermon – any questions, clarification, or feedback. We will then move to learning in small pieces about the Christian understanding of being human that’s behind Pastor Paul’s preaching. We will use the book *The Ideas of René Girard: An Anthropology of Violence and Religion*, by David Cayley (cost \$10), based on a radio show which we will also listen to in snippets .

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The coffee will be started by the building opener. Treats maybe store bought or homemade.

Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Pastor’s office.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANIA....

Sunday, February 11, 2024-

9:30 a.m. – Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. –Aebleskiver Brunch

Monday, February 12, 2024-

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Tuesday, February 13, 2024-

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Wednesday, February 14, 2024– Ash Wednesday

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

7:00 p.m. - Ash Wednesday Worship

Thursday, February 15, 2024-

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

Friday, February 16, 2024-

7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.—Office Open

8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.—RUSD Lower level

Sunday, February 18, 2024-

9:30 a.m. – Worship In Person & on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. –Coffee Hour, Hearth room

11:15 a.m. - Gospel Talk with Pastor Paul, Hearth rm