

# St. James Lutheran Church

1741 S State Street  
Greenfield Indiana 46140

Our congregation's mission statement is to bring people to Christ,  
encouraging relationships with Him and others.



## Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 19, 2023

**Meditation:** The story of Moses' mountain ascent to receive God's commandments is juxtaposed with the story of Jesus' mountain ascent when he was transfigured in the midst of his disciples. The presence of Moses and Elijah on the mountain with Jesus emphasizes his continuity with the ongoing story of God's journey with the people of God. Images of light, of the shining glory of God, suffuse today's readings. As Jesus is transfigured, His face shining like the sun, we see a new world in which God establishes justice and righteousness for all.

**Today's flowers are given for the Glory of God.**



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## Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

The mission statement of our congregation is:

*To bring people to Christ, encouraging relationships with Him and others.*

*Rev. Dr. Richard Blue, Jr. Pastor*

### TO ALL GUESTS...

- **THANKS** for joining us for worship today. We hope your experience will be one of being touched by God and of being enriched through our experience of fellowship. **Please fill out the Connection Card found in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.** And please come again!!
- **PARTICIPATE**
  - The worship service is printed in the bulletin and can also be viewed on the video screen for your convenience. Bulletins are emailed to all members each week.
  - **Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices during the worship service.**
  - The service is streamed live and available online afterward on YouTube. Links can be found on the [St. James website \(www.stjamesnalc.org\)](http://www.stjamesnalc.org) and [Facebook page](#).
- **COMMUNE** — All baptized Christians who believe that Jesus Christ is present with his body and blood in the bread and wine are invited to receive Holy Communion at the Lord's Table. The ushers will direct those receiving the sacrament down the center aisle to the altar rail. **If you require gluten free host, please let the servers know.**
- **NEED ASSISTANCE?**
  - **Hearing devices** are available for those who have trouble hearing through the loudspeaker system.
  - Hand sanitizer is available on the tables in the Narthex and in the pews.Please feel free to ask an Usher for assistance, they will be happy to help you.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Browder

*Please Stand*

† We Lift Our Hearts in Worship †

## INVOCATION AND PRAYER

P: Holy One, Light of light, God of all creation,  
long ago You showed yourself  
to the disciples in Jesus' transfiguration—  
His face glowing like a field of daffodils  
on a bright, spring morning.  
Shine in us, around us, and through us,  
that the world may see Your glory  
in the faces of Your people—  
faces transfigured in the light of Your love. Amen.

## BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Exodus 24, Matthew 17)

Though we want to walk with Moses  
and see God's holy radiance,  
**we hide in the mist of our own desires,  
unable to perceive the presence of God's grace.**  
While we want a world of justice and peace,  
**we walk in clouds of selfishness,  
unable to share God's loving-kindness.**  
Though we want to follow Jesus up the mountain,  
**we cower in fear,  
unable to bear the light of God.**

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

(Matthew 17)

P: In the blazing light of God's grace,  
Jesus touches us to say,  
"Get up and do not be afraid."  
In the name of Christ, all is forgiven.  
**Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ELW 834

PRaise, TRANscRIBING

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

834

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.  
 Music: Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807-1876

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

**(Exodus 24, Matthew 17)**

L: As God called to Moses from the mountain,

**C: We are called to be God's people.**

L: As Jesus called the disciples to climb with him  
to the peak of another mountain,

**C: We are called to follow wherever he leads.**

L: As the disciples stood in awe at the sound of God's voice,

**C: We are called to worship in wonder and praise.**

## OPENING PRAYER

(Exodus 24, Matthew 17)

Holy One, Light of light, God of all creation,  
long ago you showed yourself  
to the disciples in Jesus' transfiguration—  
his face glowing like a field of daffodils  
on a bright, spring morning.  
Shine in us, around us, and through us,  
that the world may see your glory  
in the faces of your people—  
faces transfigured in the light of your love. Amen

*Please be seated*

## † We Hear God's Word †

### FIRST READING

Exodus 24:12-18 (page 68 in your pew bible)

<sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction."

<sup>13</sup> Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them."

<sup>15</sup> When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, <sup>16</sup> and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. <sup>17</sup> To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. <sup>18</sup> Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

P: The Word of God for the people of God.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**“Alleluia”**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 17:1-9 (Page 843 in pew bible)

**The Transfiguration**

**17** After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. **2** There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. **3** Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

**4** Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

**5** While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

**6** When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. **7** But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” **8** When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

**9** As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**P: The Gospel of Our Lord**

C: Thanks be to God.

*Please Be Seated*

**MESSAGE FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

*Please stand*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## “Shine Jesus Shine” ELW 671

### 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

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*Please be seated*

## MESSAGE FOR OUR OLDER DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Richard Blue

*Please Stand*

† **We Respond to God's Word** †

## **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Apostles' Creed*

**C: 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 PEOPLE**

## **THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Please be seated*

## **THE OFFERING**

*Now we join with Christians all over the world in worshipping God through our giving of our financial resources. If you are a guest, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. Instead, we hope that we are able to give something to you. We welcome you to give only as your heart desires. For members and friends, the vision and ministry of St. James depends on your giving. We thank you in advance for your generosity. This time of offering is a significant act of worship, and we now offer our offerings and tithes.*

*Please Stand*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC-** special music *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ELW 815

## THE OFFERING RESPONSE

## Let the Vineyards be Fruitful

Let the vineyard be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with Your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

## THE OFFERING PRAYER

**P:** Luminous Giver of all good things,  
in your presence, everything is gift.  
Bless these gifts of bread and wine,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
that they may nourish us  
for the work of healing your creation,  
in the name of Christ, our light  
and the light of the world. Amen.

### † We Celebrate the Lord's Supper †

*Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins*

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 our thanks and praise.

### Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give You thanks, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For in Him you have made known to us the mystery of Your will according to Your good pleasure, to re-create all things in Christ. In Him, You have made known to us the secret of Your counsel, to gather up all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Him You were pleased to restore the unity of all in one, both things on earth and things in heaven.

And so, with all the angels and saints we proclaim Your glory, as with one voice we sing:

## **Sanctus**

**People: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Words of Jesus**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**People: 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. Amen.**

## **Invitation**

P: As we gather at the Lord's table, all are welcome. Having a common purpose, we receive growth from the love of God, and nurture and nourishment from the body and blood of Christ Jesus. At this table, we are redeemed by God, reconciled to one another, and called to labor in God's fields, where love and forgiveness are sown. The table is ready; the meal is prepared. Come, be fed, and savor the feast of the Lord!

## **Communion**

*Please be seated*

## **LAMB OF GOD**

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
Grant us peace.

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

Please Stand

COMMUNION HYMN

"Beautiful Savior" ELW 838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

*Remain Standing*

## **THE BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL**

Pastor: Let us pray to Almighty God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go forth in the power of your love, serve you in our daily life and bear witness to your goodness in the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE BENEDICTION**

P: Walk in light and truth.  
See the light of Christ in every face.  
Be the light of Christ to all you meet. Amen.

**All: Amen.**

**† We Depart in Peace †**

THE CLOSING HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Has Come” ELW 314

314

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947  
Music: William H. Walter, 1825-1893  
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG  
SM

THE DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

<b>Worship Volunteer Schedule</b>	<b>Sunday 2/19/2023</b>	<b>Weds 2/22/2023</b>	<b>Sunday 2/26/23</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Debbie Mowrey	Tracey Guffey	Debbie Mowrey
<b>Lector</b>	Christian Gries	June Gries	Dawn Hahm
<b>Ushers</b>	Tracy Guffey & Neal Guffey	Jim & Deb Jackson	Linda Hess Wanda Stephens-Wooten
<b>Greeters</b>	John Shaw Joan Shaw	Debby Brooks Ross & Gabe Smith	Liz Clark Terry Clark
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Bell	Karen Bell	Karen Bell
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Tina Beck	June Gries	June Gries
<b>Acolyte</b>	Benjamin Black	Luke Stearns	Darrel Turner
<b>Sound Technician</b>	Ronald Kissell	Ronald Kissell	Dan Ivers
<b>Video Technician</b>	Neal Guffey	Geoff LaFlower	Geoff LaFlower
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Karen Bell	Karen Bell	Karen Bell
<b>Women's Bible Study Snacks</b>	June Gries (Feb 20)	-	Debbie Brooks (Feb 27)
<b>Slide Creators</b>	John Browder & Phil Miller	?	Bill & Sherry Coomes
<b>Children's Sermon</b>	John Browder	-	June Gries
<b>Counters (Monday)</b>	Christian Gries Phil Miller	Cindy Gregory	Christian Gries Phil Miller