#### Trinity Lutheran Church, LCMS

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#### The Transfiguration Of Our Lord

A Vision of the Glory of Christ

March 2, 2025

Modified Creative Worship



# PRE-SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS SERVANT PROCESSIONAL

## AS WE GATHER

Let's be honest. Every single day, we wake up and work hard to love and follow Jesus in word and deed. And yet, every day, we are distracted by the crosses we bear - and the burdens, diseases, fears, and anxieties of the sinful world in which we live. There are some days when we feel as if we are drowning. But God's Word and the Holy Spirit keep us "on top of the water" as we cling to our Baptism, where we are cleaned and claimed. God helps us through days like that by giving us glimpses of the glory of the Christ! The Transfiguration of Our Lord is a moment of incomparable splendor and glory. Surely, we, too - like Peter, James, and

John - would like to capture that moment and "put it in a bottle" for a rainy day. But wait! There is no way to slow down or stop the gruesome journey of Jesus to the Cross - which is yet to take place. Jesus knows this. He claims the journey to the Cross as His own. But this momentary glimpse of the glory of our Christ on the Mountain of Transfiguration will strengthen our faith, assure us of victory, and deepen our desire to walk with Jesus to His Cross of Destiny and Reconciliation.

# **→ PREPARATION** →

# **HYMN** "Beautiful Savior" *LSB 537*

- Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine,
  Fair is the moonlight,
  Bright the sparkling stars on high;
  Jesus shines brighter,
  Jesus shines purer
  Than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor,

# Praise, adoration

# Now and forevermore be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Text: Public domain

#### INVOCATION

- P In the name of the Father and of the № Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## **OPENING SENTENCES**

- P Jesus, take us to the mountain, where, with Peter, James, and John,
- we are dazzled by Your glory, light as blinding as the sun.
- P There prepare us for the night
- **©** by the vision of that sight.
- P What do You want us to hear there, that Your dear disciples heard?
- Once again the Voice from heaven says of the Incarnate Word:
- P "Listen, listen, everyone,
- This is My beloved Son!"

# CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P We confess our sin to God our Father.
- God of mercy and forgiveness, God of revelation and promise, we confess that we are burdened with sin—sin that consumes, unravels, deceives, and stifles faith. Enable us by Your Word to increase our willingness to bear our crosses, resist temptation, and follow You alone! In our journey, let us continually wage war against Satan and adversaries who would seek to eclipse Your glory.

P Almighty God, we have seen Your glory in the transfiguration of Jesus, Your only-begotten Son. We join in the descent line of prophets and apostles, believing in the glory and the cross of Jesus. Crucify our sins on that cross. Envelop us in the light of His glory in these words: Upon this your confession and under the authority of Jesus Christ Himself, I am blessed to announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

## + WORD +

### **KYRIE**

- P Behold Moses, from the tribe of Levi, prophet of Yahweh, and yet a sinner and thus denied access into the Promised Land.
- Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- P Behold Elijah, a mighty prophet, judge of Israel, and yet a wounded sinner, hungry, afraid, and depressed.
- C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- P Behold Peter, James, and John, bold confessors, preachers, disciples, witnesses, and sinners.
- C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord have mercy.
- P And behold Jesus, the transfigured Son of God, the source of all comfort, defender against adversity, and fountain of grace.

# MODERN Hymn of Praise Shine, Jesus, Shine

#### Chorus

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land
With the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations
With grace and mercy
Send forth Your word Lord
And let there be light

#### Verse 1

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

#### Verse 2

Lord I come to Your awesome presence From the shadows into Your radiance By the blood I may enter Your brightness Search me try me consume all my darkness Shine on me shine on me

#### Verse 3

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness So our faces display Your likeness Ever changing from glory to glory Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story Shine on me shine on me

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#### **SALUTATION**

P The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray.
   O God, as witnesses of the Transfiguration,
- We see Your glory, along with Moses and Elijah.
- P O God, as witnesses of the Transfiguration,
- we want to hold on to that glory, like Peter, James, and John.
- P O God, as witnesses of the Transfiguration,
- we hear Your voice, "This is My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!"
- P O God, as witnesses of the Transfiguration, let us with confidence take up our crosses and follow Jesus alone.
- In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

The Shining Face of Moses Exodus 34:29-35

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. 30 Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. 31 But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. 32 Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. 33 And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil

- This is the Word of the Lord.Thanks be to God.
- \_

PSALM Psalm 99; antiphon: v. 9

- The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
- L Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!
- The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- **L** Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!
- Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called upon his name. They called to the LORD, and he answered them.
- L In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them; they kept his testimonies and the statute that he gave them.

**L** Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!

# **EPISTLE** Jesus is greater than Moses *Hebrews 3:1–6*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, <sup>2</sup> who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. 3 For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses--as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. 4 (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) 5 Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, 6 but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

# VERSE Psalm 45:2a

- P Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men;
- grace is poured upon Your lips. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>28</sup> Now, about eight days after these sayings, he took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. 30 And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, 31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"--not knowing what he said. 34 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" 36 And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"Tis Good, Lord, to be Here" LSB 414

- 1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!
   Thy glory fills the night;
   Thy face and garments, like the sun,
   Shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.
- 3 Fulfiller of the past
  And hope of things to be,
  We hail Thy body glorified
  And our redemption see.
- 4 Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come; We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.
- 5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; But since Thou bidst us leave the mount,

Come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Text: Public domain

# SERMON The Majesty of a Shining Face Exodus 34:29-35

CREED We confess the majesty and glory of our Christ through questions 173-174 in the Small Catechism of Dr. Martin Luther – a simple and clear explanation of the inspired Holy Scriptures.

- P What does the State of Exaltation mean for our understanding of who Jesus is and what He has done?
- It highlights the full and deep sense in which Jesus, as our Brother, has been exalted by God the Father over sin, death, and the devil so that our future in Him is secure. For example ...
- P Jesus descended into hell and declared victory over Satan for us; (1 Peter 3:18-20)
- And that Jesus rose triumphantly over death and the grave for us; (Mark 16:6)
- P And that Jesus ascended to the right hand of God and now rules for our benefit; (Luke 24:50-51)
- And that Jesus will return in glory as judge on the Last Day and bring us into His new creation; (Hebrews 9:28)
- P What comfort does Jesus' State of Exaltation [and the vision of His majesty and glory] bring us?
- [We can see and believe] that Christ reigns and has dominion over all creatures, that He sanctifies those who believe in Him by sending His Holy Spirit into their hearts to rule, comfort and make us alive, and that He defends us against the devil and the power of sin.
- P This is most certainly true! Amen. It shall be so!

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ and for all who bear crosses and yet seek to follow Jesus.

As the people of God, let us remember and treasure the saints of old, who struggled to guide and admonish God's people, trusting in His plan. Encourage us by their unwavering witness, determined leadership, and inordinate sacrifice.

- As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, sharing not only in His glory but also is His suffering.
- P As the people of God, let us unite ourselves into a common and earnest confession that we are both sinners and saints, baptized into the glory of knowing and being known by Jesus.
- As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, transfigured, glorified, punished, and crucified.
- P As the people of God, let us support one another amid so many crosses that are hard to understand and difficult to bear. Safeguard us from harsh, unrelenting judgment of one another. Let us seek to uphold one another in the mercy and grace of God generously given to each one of us.
- As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, generous in forgiveness, patience, understanding, and kindness. Help us to see the light of fellow believers, understanding that the crosses they bear are both visible and invisible to us.

- Additional prayers for the burdens and crosses of individual members may be included.
- P We commend to You, O Lord, the lives of all the witnesses of Your glory and heirs of Your eternal promises. In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

OFFERTORY HYMN "How Great Thou Art" St. 1, LSB 801

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder

Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,

I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,

Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

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# + SACRAMENT +

# PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

# SANCTUS (p. 208 in hymnal)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord, whose voice rained down from heaven, declaring Jesus Your only Son and bidding all of us to listen to Him. In our frail flesh, wounded by burdensome crosses, known and unknown, make our hearts receptive, our minds keenly focused on Your Words of promise, and our ears opened to hearing divine truths. By Your Holy Spirit, inspire us to treasure

the glory of Jesus, transfigured, but also crucified, that we may thoroughly believe by faith the entire redemption narrative. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

- P 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 the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ♣ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ♣ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

# PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- 1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20
- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy

cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

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.

### **PAX DOMINI**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

#### AGNUS DEI

(p. 210 in hymnal)

- 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
  - 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

- "O God of God, O Light of Light" LSB 810
- O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:

To you in heaven's glory bright The song of praise forever rings.

- To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,
- Be all the glory He has won, All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.
- 2 For deep in prophets' sacred page, And grand in poets' wingèd word, Slowly in type, from age to age The nations saw their coming Lord; Till through the deep Judean night Rang out the song, "Goodwill to men!"
  - Sung once by firstborn sons of light, It echoes now, "Goodwill!" Amen.
- 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in hate and scorn—
  - These all are past, and now above He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
  - Lift up your heads, O mighty gates!
    So sang that host beyond our ken.
    Lift up your heads, your King awaits.
    We lift them up. Amen, amen.
- 4 Then raise to Christ a mighty song, And shout His name, His mercies tell! Sing, heav'nly host, your praise prolong,

And all on earth, your anthem swell!

All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend! Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, All glory, pow'r! Amen, amen.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, alt.

Text: Public domain

- "From All That Dwell Below the Skies: LSB 816
- From all that dwell below the skies 1 Let the Creator's praise arise; Alleluia, alleluia! Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; 2 Eternal truth attends Thy Word. Alleluia, alleluia! Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and set no more. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- $\triangle 3$ All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee. Alleluia, alleluia! Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore: Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text (sts. 1-2): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; (st. 3): William W. How,

1823-97 Text: Public domain

- "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory" LSB 416
- Swiftly pass the clouds of glory, 1 Heaven's voice, the dazzling light;

- Moses and Elijah vanish; Christ alone commands the height! Peter, James, and John fall silent, Turning from the summit's rise Downward toward the shadowed valley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.
- Glimpsed and gone the revelation, 2 They shall gain and keep its truth, Not by building on the mountain Any shrine or sacred booth, But by following the Savior Through the valley to the cross And by testing faith's resilience Through betrayal, pain, and loss.
- Lord, transfigure our perception 3 With the purest light that shines, And recast our life's intentions To the shape of Your designs, Till we seek no other glory Than what lies past Calv'ry's hill And our living and our dying And our rising by Your will.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, 1945-2022

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# POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (p. 211 in hymnal)

1 O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

#### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, source of divine nourishment, through Your Holy Word, body, and blood, You increase our faith and courage to bear our crosses in the name of Jesus, glorified and crucified. At this Table, You unite us with the myriad of saints who have preceded us. Together, past, present, and future, we are believing heirs of Your eternal promises. We are witnesses of Christ's life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Prepare us for our eternal glory, where we will reside with You in Jerusalem, our eternal home.

C Amen.

#### BENEDICTION

P God the Father bless you as chosen sons and daughters—witnesses of Christ's glory. May the vivid transfiguration of Jesus flood you with light and life.

Through His cross, may He grant you endurance and faithfulness in living lives filled with unending grace and mercy. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ♣ give you peace.

## C Amen.

**HYMN** "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" *LSB* 873

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light, Sun of righteousness, arise; Triumph o'er the shades of night. Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee; Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see, Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
- Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief; Fill me, radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief; More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88

Text: Public domain

- Modified Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.
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#### **COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS**

THE LORD'S SUPPER will be celebrated during our worship service this morning. The Bible is clear about who is welcomed and prepared to receive Holy Communion. St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:28 – "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup." Therefore, those Christians who are prepared and "worthy"; communicants have been led by the Holy Spirit to ...

- 1) Feel contrition and confess all sins to the LORD
- 2) Trust in Christ for the forgiveness of sins
- 3) Strive to turn away from unrepented sin and
- 4) Discern and believe in the real presence of Christ's true body and blood in, with, and under the outward forms of bread and wine. Therefore, we welcome all confirmed adults to join us at the Table of the Lord. We do invite those adults and children who are not prepared to receive the Lord's Supper to come to the communion table, cross your arms across your heart, and receive a blessing from the pastor. Thank you!

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES begin this week on Ash Wednesday, March 5, at 6:30 pm. This service will include both the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. As we enter the more somber Season of Lent and walk with Jesus to His destiny of the Cross, we say "farewell" to expressions of "Alleluia" [Praise the Lord!] and reflect upon His betrayal, sufferings and death for the sins of the world.

THE HANDS OF JESUS is the theme of our Midweek Lenten Services this Lenten Season. Each week, we will explore how Jesus used his hands in the accomplishment of our reconciliation, forgiveness, and salvation.

March 5, 6:30 PM ......Hands that Freely Give March 12, 6:30 PM ... Hands that Create and Restore

March 19, 6:30 PM ... Hands that Cast Out Demons

March 26, 6:30 PM ... Hands that Heal the Sick

April 2, 6:30 PM ...... Hands that Raise the Dead

April 9, 6:30 PM ...... Hands that Hold All Things

April 17 (Maunday Thursday) ... Hands that Serve and Feed April 18 (Good Friday) ... Hands that are Pierced

April 20 (Easter) ... Hands that Rise and Point

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS offer at least four different homemade soups plus "all the fixins" and even dessert. These convenient and delectable suppers will be served at 5:30 PM prior to our Midweek Lenten Services on Wednesday, March 12, 19, 26 and April 2 and 9. All members, guests and friends are warmly invited to partake of this special fellowship.

#### **CHARTING OUR COURSE**

Attendance week of February 23, 2025 10:00 am Worship in Person: 59/Online plays: 159

Communicants: N/A

9:00 am Kids Sunday school In Person: 9 9:00 am Adult Bible Class in Person: 16/Online plays: 184

# WORSHIP SERVANTS March 2, 2025

Acolyte: Daniel Eppler

Elders: Bill Hertel and Bob Brumm

Pastor: Pastor Michael R. Ruhl

Organist: Linda Freeman

Altar: Joanna Krueger, Stacy Sprague,

Carolyn Ruhl

Counting: Kristin Myher

Ushers: Lynda and Mitch Minger

Greeters: Ben Ratliff and Daniel Eppler