

Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church



Transfiguration of Our Lord

8:15 & 10:30 Worship Services

Sunday, February 22, 2009

MACEDONIA'S MISSION STATEMENT

Mission: A community of believers responding to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faith, worship and action.

Vision: That Christ might have first place in everything. (Col. 1:18)

- *Invest in youth and family life.*
- *Support and develop education programs.*
- *Build community by developing strong Christian fellowship.*
- *Improve communication including the effective use of technology.*

- *Think beyond ourselves to be involved in local synodical and churchwide programs.*
- *Strengthen and develop programs to attract others to Christ.*

- *Increase cooperation and mission opportunities with Lutheran Retirement Ministries.*
- *Encourage an attitude that promotes the development of new ministries.*
- *Identify and use the talents of the congregation to meet the needs of the church and community.*

Sunday, February 22, 2009
Transfiguration of Our Lord
Holy Communion
Youth Sunday

Setting Eight - 8:15 & 10:30 (ELW)

The Marks of Discipleship: I will strive to . . .

- + Pray daily
- + Worship weekly
- + Read the Bible daily
- + Serve at and beyond Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church
- + Be in Relationship with others to encourage spiritual growth
- + Give of my time, talents and resources in a generous manner and to the glory of God

INTRODUCTION

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 son. 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.

P = Pastor

C = Congregation

A = Assistant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please prepare yourself for worship during the Prelude)

PRELUDE

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Sit

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C Amen

GATHERING SONG

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671 (*Red Hymnal*)


GREETING

P 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.

KYRIE

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of
 vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -
 le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

C 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.

ANTHEM (10:30)

Let us Walk in the Light of the Lord
Cherub Choir, Melody Choir, Youth

Brown & Wright

CHILDREN'S SERMON

“PURE WHITE”
based on Mark 9:2-9

FIRST READING

2 Kings 2:1–12

A A reading from 2 Kings chapter 2.

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.

Now 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.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SKIT

“LET YOUR FAITH SHINE”
based on Matthew 5:14-16

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

A A reading from 2 Corinthians chapter four.

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 out of darkness at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³And even 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.

- A Word of God, word of life .
- C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

- A The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

A The gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY *We Are Marching in the Light* **ELW 866** (Red Hymnal)
(Cherubs sing verse, then congregation echoes verse)

SKIT "THE STETHOSCOPE"
based on Colossians 1:27

NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Living in the light of Christ, who reveals both our need and God's abundant love, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A Holy God, you reveal all things through your Son. Shine Christ's light into your church. Change us by your mercy, and lead us forth to share life-changing mercy with others. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You make your creation awe-inspiring and beautiful. Show us your glory in every living thing, so that we may treat all of creation with humility and deep respect. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You have unveiled your salvation in Christ. Draw out all people who are in bondage to sin, shining your light in their lives and redeeming all nations. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Your healing touch makes people whole. Soothe the pain of people living with illness, grief, hopelessness, and confusion (*especially*). Comfort your suffering children. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A In one another you give us faithful companions. Build up deep friendships among coworkers, students, and neighbors, that we may support one another in our earthly journey. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A Remembering those who now dwell fully in the light of Christ, we look for that day when we will see the glory of God in the face of Jesus. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Into your merciful hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray; through the Light of the world, your Son, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Songs of Childhood

arr. J. Rust

OFFERTORY HYMN*This Little Light of Mine***ELW 677 (Red Hymnal)****OFFERING PRAYER****A** Let us pray.**A** Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**C** **Amen.****DIALOGUE****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 our thanks and praise.****PREFACE** (*Spoken by Pastor*)**P** 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -

est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 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,
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

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**

COMMUNION

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

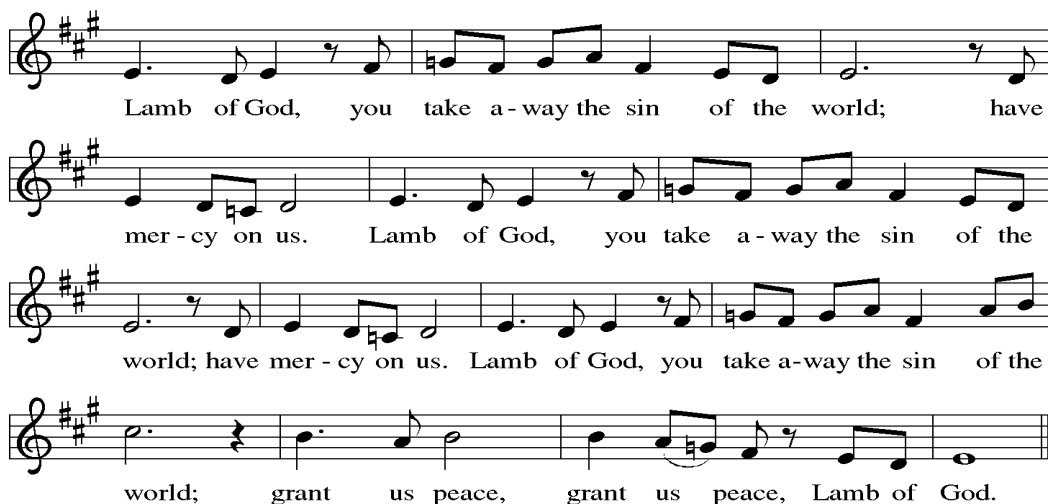
The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

A The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD (Sing Twice)



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, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Blessing, Honor, and Glory
One Bread, One Body

ELW 433 (Red Hymnal)

ELW 496 (Red Hymnal)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

A We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

A Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG*Beautiful Savior***ELW 838** *(Red Hymnal)***DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE*Siyahamba*

setting by John A. Behnke

We're delighted to **welcome** all who have come to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth. May we all be encouraged as we open ourselves to God's Word and the Holy Spirit.

The **Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Arlie Hahn, Sr. by Alda Hahn and children.

Please remember in your prayers: Boyd Black, Joan Blomberg, Lamar & Dolly Briner, Roy Durnwirth, Carl Gant, Kermit Hiller, Buddy Kircus, David McLawhorn, David Millspaugh, Estelle & Mel Petersen, Mary Raum, Jim Ysteboe, Zach Wilson. The family of Susan Lambeth. *(Requests are to be renewed weekly by contacting the church office.)*

Today's contemporary service is Setting Eight from our Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal. We give thanks for the youth who planned today's service, and their witness and dedication to God. To God Be the Glory! Emily Adkins, Paige Claypool, Kevin Easter, Marisa Gibson, Maddie Johnson, Sarah Lynch, Max Menz, Sarah Menz, Christine Perry, Melissa Reeger, Kyle Rippenhagen, Kari Spencer, Rachel Spencer, Hannah Thigpen. Cantor: Maddie Johnson. Cherub Choir: Marilyn Adkins, Amelia & Mac Barnwell, Walker Black, Abbie Cary, Dylan Easter, Sarah Jane Price, Ethan & Riley Russell, Zane Van Fleet. Melody Choir: Jacob Adkins, Sarah Bass, Taylor Easter, Sommer Fanney, Aidan Gibson, Rachel & Kari Spencer, Hannah & Daniel Thigpen. Youth Sponsors: Michele Claypool, Tom Meisenbach, Melinda Menz, Greg Myers, Julie Myers, Debbie Riggs, Joy Rust.

Loaves and Fishes – For the month of February please bring dried milk, Ensure, Boost, etc.

MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE COVERED DISH LUNCHEON! Do you want to hear about ideas for Macedonia's future? Would you like to share your thoughts on where we should be going as a church? **The Master Plan Steering Committee** will be giving a mid-point presentation during a **covered dish luncheon** immediately following today's 10:30 Youth Worship Service. We want to let you know what we've been up to in our Strategic Planning efforts. You'll hear updates from our five subcommittees and will have an

opportunity to ask questions and give us your input. We believe it is important that as many of our congregation as possible be involved in helping us explore future directions for Macedonia. We're excited about this adventure and hope to share the excitement with you! Bring your favorite dish or two, come join us, and enjoy food, fellowship and an exciting program. For more information on the Strategic Planning effort, see the article in this month's newsletter or contact Bruce Moore.

2009 Lenten Devotionals provided by the Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots U.S. are available in the narthex and outside of the church office.

MUSICAL MOMENTS AT MACEDONIA - will continue on Sunday, March 1 at 4:00 p.m. when the Cathedral Brass present a concert here in our sanctuary. A free will offering will be collected, and the concert will feature both sacred and secular music. Invite your friends! A reception will follow the concert. Mark your calendar; make plans to attend! Call or see Joy Rust if you wish to place a poster in your workplace to advertise the concert.

The Downtown Community Lenten Services will begin Tuesday, March 3 at Ebenezer United Church of Christ located at 734 Apple Street in Burlington. The Reverend Alan Sasser of Davis Street Methodist Church will be the speaker. Worship begins at noon followed by a light lunch at the church. Cost for the lunch is \$3.00. A special offering will also be collected for Allied Churches Ministries.

The **Alamance Chorale** will present "**We're a Little Bit Country**". The dinner show is a blend of Country, Western and Patriotic. Performances will be held at Front Street United Methodist Church on Friday, March 6 and again on Saturday, March 7. For more information contact Sharon Walker, Debbie Riggs or Yoko Moore.

HANDICAP RAMP MINISTRY - We want to start a new ministry here at Macedonia. We would build handicap ramps for those in need. You must be at least 18 years old. If interested sign up sheet is by Pastor's office or call the church office. We need 10 - 15 people to get started.

Attention Macedonians!!! We have a great opportunity to serve the community while it is being served by others. During the week of March 8 - 14, Habitat for Humanity will host a group of 12 college students from the State University of New York Cortland. These students will spend their Spring Break here building a Habitat house for our community. Twin Lakes has again agreed to house them. Macedonia is to provide the breakfast food. (They want one group to do this). They are not asking for anything fancy ... cereal, pop tarts, granola bars, bagels, cream cheese, jelly, fruit, milk, coffee, etc. When you go shopping in the next few weeks, please think about this and buy an extra box of cereal or a

jar of jelly. If you want to provide a perishable item, please let Barbara Lilienthal know (229-0188). All items unused when the students leave will be donated to Loaves and Fishes. There will be a breakfast food collection box in the Narthex for these items. Have a suggestion or question about the ministries, programs, or facilities here at Macedonia? We take your feedback seriously and have placed a new **Suggestion Box** in the Narthex near the entrance to the Sanctuary. The box is checked frequently and only by our Congregational President. Every suggestion received is reviewed by the Executive Committee. If you provide your name and contact information, we will notify you within one week that we've received your suggestion. We will contact you again with a status report following the next monthly Council meeting. Quarterly, we will review all suggestions and questions to ensure that we've taken appropriate action where warranted.

YOUTH BEACH RETREAT POLAR PLUNGE - Calling all Youth Grades 6-12 to mark your calendars for the annual Beach Retreat. We will be going to the Kure Beach Retreat the weekend of April 4th - 5th. If you are interested please let Greg Myers know as soon as possible so we can finalize our reservations. We are also looking for parents to volunteer to drive, chaperone, and assist in preparing meals. Final cost per youth should not exceed \$45.00. More details will follow as we get closer to the date.

The **CHANCEL CHOIR** will present "Covenant of Grace," a Holy Week Tenebrae Cantata, on Good Friday, April 10, 2009. If anyone would like to join us to sing the cantata, please join us on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. Each Wednesday we will rehearse the cantata first, so if you only want to sing for Good Friday you do not have to remain for the rest of choir rehearsal.

MUSIC WEEK AT LUTHERIDGE, one of our ELCA camps, is July 12-18. Sylvia and Joy have attended the past two summers, and are looking forward to attending again this summer. We are hoping that some of you may be able to join us. Activities are available for all ages (they even have a nursery)! We are hopeful that we will be able to offer a partial scholarship to those who may want to attend. So check your availability, and let Debbie Riggs or the church office know by March 1 if you are able to participate. To check it out, visit this website: <http://www.llmi.net/youth/MusicWeek.aspx>

Offerings: (2/15) General: \$ 3,998.25 Capital: \$335.00

Pew Torches: \$5,795.00 (**Goal is \$8,400.00**)

Musical Moments: \$1,750.00

Hymns For Healing CD: \$3,660.00 The Gift Goes On CD: \$2,686.00

Sunday Attendance (2/15) SS: 76 (8:15): 60 (10:30): 127

ALSO SCHEDULED THIS WEEK

- Today (2/22)**
- 8:15 Worship/Communion (**YOUTH SERVICE**)
 - 9:30 Sunday School
 - 10:30 Worship/Communion (**YOUTH SERVICE**)
- SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL LUNCHEON**
- 4:45 Reformation Ringers
 - 5:30 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation
 - 6:30 Crossways II, #48
- Monday**
- 4:00 Crossways I, #17
 - 7:00 Boy Scouts
- Tuesday**
- SHROVE TUESDAY**
- 4:30 Macedonia Ringers
 - 5:15 Melody Choir
 - 5:30 Cherub Choir
 - 6:15 Sweet Adeline Choir Rehearsal
 - 6:30 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper & “Burial of the Alleluias”
 - 7:00 Boy Scouts Troop 39 Committee Meeting
- Wednesday**
- ASH WEDNESDAY**
- 1:00 Sewing Group
 - 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service
Chancel Choir will meet following the service.
- Thursday**
- 6:30 Cathedral Brass Rehearsal
 - 7:00 Fellowship Committee
- Saturday**
- 10:00 Chrismon Workshop
 - 6:00 Boy Scout Banquet
- Sunday (3/1)**
- 8:15 Worship/Communion
 - 9:30 Sunday School
 - 10:30 Worship/Communion
 - Noon National Youth Gathering Bible Study
 - **4:00 Musical Moments - Cathedral Brass**
 - 4:45 Reformation Ringers
 - 5:30 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation
 - 6:00 Youth Meeting
 - 6:30 Crossways II, #49

*Macedonia Lutheran Church invites you to come and worship
with us during this upcoming time of Lent!*

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 24 at 6:30 p.m.**

**The Men of the church invite you to a delicious
pancake and sausage supper**

After supper, we bury the “Alleluias”.

Come, Eat and Worship!

Ash Wednesday Worship

We gather for worship on

Wednesday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m.

for the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

Lenten Denial Folders will be available
and all monies from them will go to “Loaves and Fishes”.

Lenten Theme—2009

“Christ Died For Our Spiritual Well-Being”

Martin Luther said, “This life, therefore, is not godliness but the process of becoming godly, not health but getting well, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not now what we shall be, but we are on the way.” We cannot be “whole” in this life, but we can become acquainted with the wholeness to come by striving to live well in key aspects of our lives. Living a centered life focused on God affects each aspect of our well being. Turn to God for strength as you seek to live well in Christ. Nurture your relationship with God through prayer, devotions, worship, nature, art and music. This Lenten season explore who you are and know Whose you are. See you on Wednesday nights starting February 25.

Join us on Wednesdays to strengthen your faith!

5:45 p.m.

Lenten Suppers (\$6.00 per person)

6:45 p.m.

Lenten Vespers (March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1)

MYSTERIOUS FORESHADOWING



The gospel reading today is a lot like a joke with no punch line. Everything is set up in threes. Three dwellings. Mark describes Jesus' transfiguration in three different ways: a transfiguration, dazzling white clothes, whiter than anyone could have ever bleached them. But then the punch line ends up like last week's gospel, when Jesus told the leper not to tell anyone about what had happened. Except this time, Jesus commands the disciples to tell no one until after the Son of Man is raised from the dead.

So here we are, thousands of years after the resurrection of Christ, still telling a story that the disciples had to keep to themselves. It is like the stories many of us carry around about a loved one that we cannot tell until after that person has died. The difference is that some of our stories are probably embarrassing or shameful in some way. We want to protect the person by not telling the stories.

But who needs protecting in this story? Why is Jesus concerned that the disciples not tell about their dazzling mountaintop experience? The most likely answer is that the transfiguration was the kind of event that would only make sense in light of other events. Like a movie with mysterious foreshadowing. Only later, when the viewer knows the whole story, do some of the early scenes make sense. That is why some movies are great to watch more than once.

It is also why this gospel story is worth telling every year, the Sunday before Lent. It is foreshadowing, and we tell it because the end of the Lenten journey will help us make sense of this beginning. Jesus Christ, after his death, is raised radiant and full of light, and is our light as the Son of God. Even before the long walk of Lent we get this early and awesome "Alleluia"!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

February 22, 2009

Transfiguration Sunday

Monday	Psalm 110:1-4, Exodus 19:7-25, Hebrews 2:1-4
Shrove Tuesday	Psalm 110:1-4, Job 19:23-27, 1 Timothy 3:14-16
Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Thursday	Psalm 25:1-10, Daniel 9:1-14, 1 John 1:3-10
Friday	Psalm 25:1-10, Daniel 9:15-25a, 2 Timothy 4:1-5
Saturday	Psalm 25:1-10, Psalm 32, Matthew 9:2-13
Sunday	Genesis 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-10, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Senior Pastor (585-0666).....	Rev. Stephen C. Rust
Associate Pastor for Visitation (436-0104).....	Rev. Dr. Dianne Dietz
Seminarian (665-0363).....	Intern Vincent Iocona
Director of Church Music.....	Joy H. Rust
Director, Chancel Choir and Reformation Ringers.....	Sylvia R. Crews
Organist (8:15).....	Mary Anne Dettman
Organist (10:30).....	Joy H. Rust
Organist Emeritus.....	Terry G. Woodings
Director, Cherub Choir.....	Joy H. Rust
Director, Macedonia Ringers and Melody Choir.....	Sylvia R. Crews
Sunday School Superintendent.....	Ruth W. Matkins
Crucifer.....	Jeffrey Walker
Acolytes.....	Megan Turner, Will Owen
Communion Preparer.....	(10:30) Yvonne White
Greeters.....	Lettie Carlson, Kathleen Turbyfill, Bobbie Gregoris, Gayle Efiz
Nursery Attendants.....	Vicky Hunley, Grey Hunley
Ushers.....	Dale Greeson-Chief
Brett Bass, Harold Fogleman, Charlie Harris, Randy Hunley, Frank Rhue, Danny Van Fleet, Brant Adkins	
Sound System.....	Kristin Spencer
Dust Covers.....	Ruth Matkins, Jane Moore

Lutheran Retirement Ministries/Twin Lakes Community

Executive Director, TLC.....	Charles R. Harris
Director, Pastoral Care, TLC.....	Rev. Craven G. Ford

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