

Immanuel Lutheran Church



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The Transfiguration of Our Lord February 15, 2026



AS WE GATHER Brilliant!

Jesus looks brilliant! As language changes, sometimes the most basic meanings of words change and expand with the times. For generations, the English word *brilliant* meant simply something that shines or radiates light. The word is thought to be derived from the prized gemstone beryl, which is mentioned in both the Old Testament book of Daniel (10:6) and the book of Revelation (21:20). Jesus' garments became "white as light," Matthew writes (17:2), in a way that mirrors Psalm 104, where the psalmist writes of God: "You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering Yourself with light as with a garment" (vv. 1–2). As He stands on the mountaintop with Moses and Elijah, Jesus is shining, radiant, and brilliant. An expanded meaning of the word *brilliant* is "perfect, amazing, and wonderful." Jesus on the mountaintop is brilliant as He discusses how He will carry out God's plan of our salvation with two of the best coaches ever, Moses and Elijah. Jesus does not just look brilliant—He *is* brilliant!

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

HYMN “Jesus on the Mountain Peak” #415

Please stand as you are able.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 50:1–2; 67:1, 3; 2 Corinthians 4:6*

Pastor: The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

Pastor: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

People: **Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!**

Pastor: For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,”

People: **has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought and in word and in deed.

People: **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.**

Pastor: We confess that we have not always listened to Your Word and have not brought glory to You through our words and our deeds.

People: **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.**

Pastor: We confess that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, begrudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not always been defenders of the weak and the needy as advocates of those not yet born and defenders of those in the final stages of life.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not used every opportunity given us to witness to the faith that is ours, that we and have let the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh set the agendas for our lives and actions.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We repent of all that is sinful in our lives, both those things that we know of and those things unknown to us that are against Your righteous laws.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE *pew hymnal page 151*

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: ♪ Lord have mercy

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: ♪ Lord have mercy

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: ♪ **Lord have mercy**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: ♪ **Lord have mercy**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

People: ♪ **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE “This is the Feast” *pew hymnal page 155*

**Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

1. Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**
2. Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. **Refrain**
3. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation.
4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**
5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. **Final Refrain**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪ **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.
O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **♪Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 24:8-18
(Moses meets with the Lord God on Mount Sinai.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE 2 Peter 1:16-21
(Peter writes of his mountaintop experience with Jesus)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

ALLELUIA and VERSE *pew hymnal page 156*

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 17:1-9
(Jesus is transfigured on a high mountaintop.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 17th chapter.

People: **♪ Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Gospel is read

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: **♪ Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED *(found on the last page of the pew hymnal)*

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair” #413

SERMON *Pastor Mark Croucher*

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Through faith in Christ, we may approach our God with confidence, praying for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

God of love and peace, we bless You for revealing the mystery of the ages to us. We thank You for including each of us in the marvelous plan of salvation and for the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in us and among us. Work in us to reflect the brilliant light of Christ and show forth His love at all times and in all places. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of power and might, we pray for our world and for all the people who share this planet with us. Grant us grace to listen to Your Word and to follow its directing, that we may share Your glory. Move us to reach out in every direction with the joyful news of the Gospel, that people everywhere may become part of the kingdom of God now and forever. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of grace and glory, we pray for this gathering of the faithful. Bless this congregation, its leaders, and all the people here present that we may be light in a darkened world. Bless also those with special needs, whose earthly journeys are burdensome or challenging. Especially we remember the sick, the homebound, and those in need of our petitions, including Liz, Betty, Karla, Dan, Ian, Sandra, Luetta and Grace as she mourns the loss of her sister Nancy. Bless them with Your presence and enable us to be their comfort and support. Lord in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of time and eternity, we thank You for the faithful witness of those no longer with us here on earth who shine in the beauty of Your light eternal. Inspire us by their faithful witness that we seek to serve You constantly all our days. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

People: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Please stand as you are able

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠
pew hymnal page 160-166

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: ♪And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: ♪We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times in all places give thanks to You, our merciful 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. Grant us to share in their vision and witness and with all the faithful to look forward to the glory yet to be revealed. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

**♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Holy are You, O God. With thanksgiving and praise, we bless You for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to give Himself as a perfect sacrifice for us so that our lives may know that true peace and joy that is ours to share as we proclaim Your lordship of life. We bless You for the vision of eyewitnesses to Your glory that inspires and encourages us on our journeys of faith. Invited by Your grace, we come to Your Table with thankful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood that we may live lives of confident hope, awaiting the eternal feast with all the saints in glory everlasting.

People: ♪ **Amen**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: 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

PAX DOMINI

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

People: ♪ **Amen**

AGNUS DEI

♪ **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.**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

♪ **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the church. By Your Holy Spirit, help us to grow in faith and fellowship and do the good works that You desire us to do as Your witnesses in our time; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with You and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

People: ♪ **A-men**

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

Ecclesiastes 3:1–4, 7, alt.

Pastor: This week, on Ash Wednesday, we begin our observance of Lent. To highlight the penitential nature of the season, it has been the custom in the church to suspend the use of the word *alleluia*, which means “Praise the Lord.” The tradition not to use the joyful word *alleluia* in worship from the conclusion of worship on the final Sunday before Lent until the first service on Easter Sunday has been in place since the fifth century. The text of the hymn “Alleluia, Song of Gladness” dates back to the 11th century and links us to a millennium of God’s people at worship. We will repeat words from the book of Ecclesiastes, which remind us that there are appropriate times for all things, including a time to keep silence, which we will observe regarding use of the alleluia throughout Lent.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;

People: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

Pastor: a time to break down, and a time to build up;

People: a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

Pastor: a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

People: a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Pastor: As part of our observance of a holy Lent as it begins this week, we now say farewell to the alleluia until the time of our rejoicing anew at the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: ♪ A-men

HYMN “Hail, O Source of Every Blessing” #409

POSTLUDE

THE MESSENGER

February 15, 2026

WELCOME! Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

SERVING US TODAY: Pr. Mark Croucher
Dan Henggeler, Organist

IN OUR PRAYERS: Liz Kraft, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Dan and Ian Henggeler, Sandra Newman, Luetta Buchholz and Grace Albano.

LAST SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE: 27 total: 10 guests



The **Lutheran Urban Mission Agency Auxiliary** will meet on Wednesday, March 18 at Messiah Lutheran Church, 613 S. Main St, Independence, MO. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with the opening service at 9:30 a.m. The program will be a speaker from Mother's Refuge in Independence. The Mission of the Month collection is non-perishable food pantry items and monetary donations. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by March 15 to Jane Clark, 816-616-3383, jclark2100@att.net. All ladies of the congregation

are invited to attend and all donations for the Mission of the Month collection are appreciated. Thank you! *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35*

THE LUTHERAN HOUR theme for next Sunday, February 22nd is **"As Through Fire"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler To be baptized into Christ, to trust in Him, is to die with Him, to be raised by Him, to pass through the fire under His shelter. 1 Corinthians 3:13
Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.