

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Belleville, PA



Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 14, 2021



PRELUDE

WELCOME

Welcome to all in the sanctuary, in the parking lot and at home on this sixth Sunday of Epiphany as the season of the revelation of the light of God culminates in the dazzling mountaintop experience of Christ in glory at the Transfiguration. This has also appropriately been designated Camp Mount Luther Sunday celebrating the program and place that brings children and youth, both physically and spiritually, their own 'mountain experiences.' We thank Anne Harshbarger for being with us today to update us on Camp Mt Luther's activities during Covid and on into a 'new normal' camp program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are honored to celebrate today with Anne Harshbarger as she takes on a new position as Parent and Camper Liason for Camp Mount Luther. In this new role she will continue to help the important ministry at camp where campers are assured: You will learn about Jesus and His love for you; you will learn about God's creation, and have fun doing it. As you gather in your cabins with new friends, participate in GROW Time, campfires, crafts, and go swimming--may your faith in Jesus Christ grow deeper. We will pray for you while at camp. We will pray for the staff who will care for you. And we will pray for your parents while you are away.

Anne, as you continue to face the challenges as a first years Science teacher during Covid may Christ be with you. As you join the CML staff in building up the camp and lifting up campers and their parent may Christ be with you.

P Let us pray: As you go on your way, Anne, may Christ go with you. May He go before you to show you the way. May He go behind you to encourage you; Above you to watch over, beside you to befriend you, within you to give you peace. Lord, watch over Anne and all the counselors and staff at Camp Mt Luther this summer as they reinvent camp after Covid. Keep them in safety as they study your Word and lead activities at Camp Mount Luther. Bless the staff who care for them. Assure their parents as they are away that You remain with them. In Jesus' name. AMEN

***GATHERING HYMN**

652

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the piano accompaniment providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, each corresponding to a different voice part. The first line is for Soprano, the second for Alto, the third for Tenor, and the fourth for Bass. The piano accompaniment is written in the right and left hands, with the right hand playing the melody and the left hand providing harmonic support.

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
S M

***GREETING**

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

P You are the treasured people of the LORD,
C **a people holy to the LORD our God.**

P Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.
C **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

P One does not live by bread alone,
C **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

***SCRIPTURE SONG**



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul-er of all the na-tions.



Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.



☐ For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One. All



na-tions will draw near and wor-ship be-fore you,



for your just and ho-ly works have been re-vealed.



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev-er.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY ~ in unison** *Prayers and Lessons are found in Celebrate*

P The Lord be with you. C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray...

LESSONS

***First Lesson ~ A reading from 2 Kings 2:1-12**

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

***Psalm 50:1-6 ~ with response**

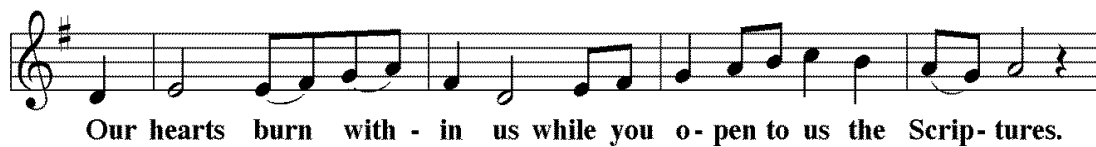
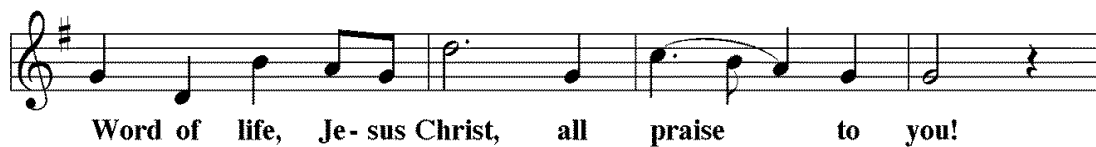
The psalm is announced, organ plays response 1x, cantor or pastor sings 1x, people join to sing response, then as psalm is read, congregation sings response at each R.

***Second Lesson ~ A reading from 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

after the reading

R The word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL READING**

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 9th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the reading

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

Special Sharing about Camp Mt. Luther ~ Anne Harshbarger

*HYMN

651

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 love and mer - cy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

Continued on next page

A D A E/A A D

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 -

A E/A D E⁷ C[#]m F[#]m

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,

D E⁷ C[#]m F[#]m G

set us free by the truth you now bring us. Shine on
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry. Shine on

Esus⁴ E G Esus⁴ E *Refrain*

me, shine on me:
 me, shine on me:

Text: Graham Kendrick
 Music: Graham Kendrick
 © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere) Integrity's Hosanna! Music

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE
 9 9 10 10 3 3 and refrain

***RESPONSE to the WORD**

- P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.
C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**
P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
C **pray in the Holy Spirit.**
P Keep yourselves in the love of God;
C **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**
P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
C **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**
P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Gracious God,
C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**
P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. C **Amen**

***THE PEACE**

You may greet others with a sign of peace - a wave or a slight bow with hand over your heart and the words "Peace of Christ or Peace be with you!"

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

OFFERING ~ All loose offering this week and next will go to support Camp Mt. Luther. You can also include it with your offering e and notate CML on the check or envelope. Please leave your gifts in one of the offering plates **at the end of the front and back pews** (Mechanic St. side) on your way out, or if you are worshipping from the back parking lot you may leave them - in the box by the outside basement steps.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- P Let us pray.
P God, our Creator,
C **you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ~ Camp Mt. Luther Prayer Petitions**

- P Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.
A brief silence

Dear God, sometimes we don't know where life is going. Sometimes we don't know how to deal with what is going on right now, today, in our lives. Whenever we get scared about today, help us to know that you are present. Whenever we get scared of the future, help us to remember that you go with us, no matter where we go. Lord, in your mercy... **HEAR OUR PRAYER**

Loving God, you stay with us in this life no matter who betrays us. Help us remember you are with us no matter where we go. Help us be compassionate and kind to others, as you have been to us. Lord, in your mercy... **HEAR OUR PRAYER**

Faithful God, this life has so many twists and turns. Thank you that no matter how many surprising turns life takes, you will be beside us every step of the way. Lord, in your mercy... **HEAR OUR PRAYER**

God, we thank you for your gift of Jesus Christ, who came to earth as an unexpected baby. Help us to celebrate the surprising ways you come to us, just like your faithful servant Mary. Give us courage, hope, and peace in our confusion. Lord, in your mercy... **HEAR OUR PRAYER**

God, you were faithful to those who came before us; you are faithful to us today; and you are faithful to all who will come after us. We love you, God, and we thank you. Lord, in your mercy.... **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

We pray for the campers and staff at Camp Mount Luther. Help the staff to share Christ and plant seeds in the lives of those who come to this place set apart. Open the minds of the children, youth, and adults who attend, so that they can encounter you in new and exciting ways. Help them to experience the beauty of your creation and come back to the congregation, ready to live a life of discipleship and service to you. Lord, in your mercy... **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

For all those for whom we pray, and whatever else you see that the world needs, we ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

***LORD's PRAYER**

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

***THE BLESSING**

P May God bless every turn your life takes. May you always know that God is right behind you, right beside you, right before you, every step of the way. And may you always remember that there is no place you can go where God will not go with you! Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **And all God's children say: Amen!**

649 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see . . . the bright - ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Right - teous - ness, shine on my path, race.
 When we have run . . . with pa - tience the race,


The star of my life . . . is Je - sus.
 and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 we shall know the joy . . . of Je - sus.

Continued on next page

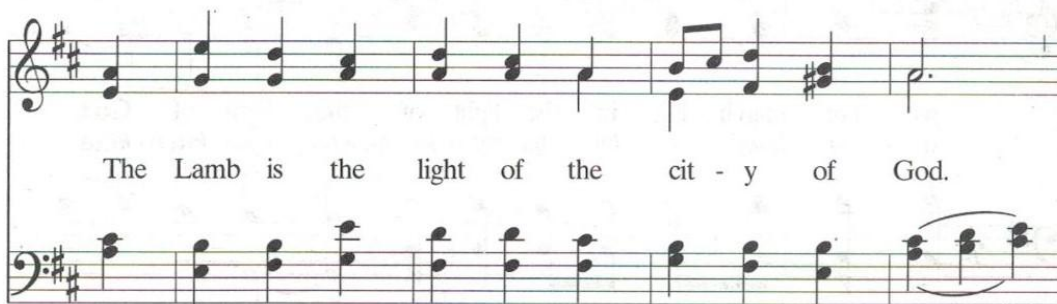
Refrain



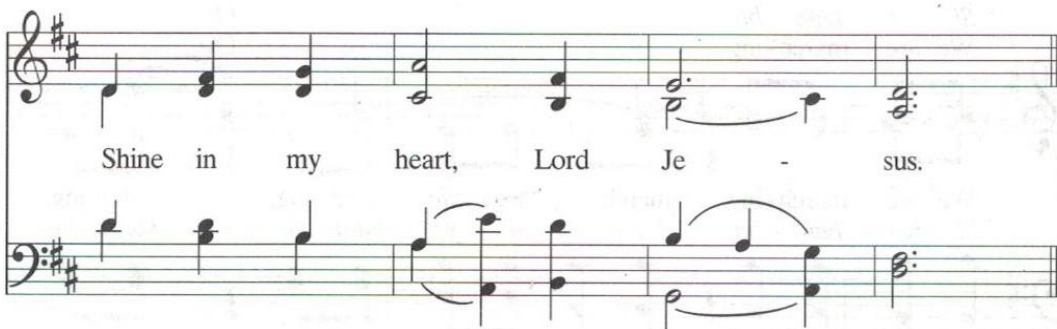
In him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 Music: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 © 1970 Celebration, admin. The Copyright Co.

HOUSTON
 10 7 10 8 and refrain

SENDING SONG ~ for the last Sunday of Epiphany and many weeks at Camp

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

I'm gonna take this light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.
I'm gonna take this light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.
I'm gonna take this light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord
R Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE ~ *please exit the church using the aisle and staircase on the left
(Mechanic St. side, remembering to keep a safe distance from others)

Pastor: Reverend Ela J. Robertson Phone 740-338-7123

Organist: Seulki Susie Yoo

Congregational Song Leader: Reba Harmon

Church Office: 935-2032 **Email us at** stjohnco@embarqmail.com

St. John's Christian Day Care: 935-2959

Our Mission Statement

*We, the members of St. John's congregation, promise to share
the good news of Jesus Christ, to worship and to love one another
in our homes, church, community and the world.*

Our Vision Statement

*To be people who are welcoming and encourage God's love in our community,
through our prayer, devotion, benevolence and deeds.*

Today

Greeters: John and Denise Chester; **Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich

Next Sunday, February 21

Greeter: Carol Fultz; **Lay Reader:** John Boring

Please remember in prayer ~ Pastor Ken Longfield, Vivian Plank, Fred Hagemeyer, Kim Aumiller, Samantha Smith, our members ~ Betty Harmon (Elmcroft), Ev Young (Zion Home, Lititz) and Carol Yoder (VVH).

From the Pastor

We will be having our Ash Wednesday service this week at 7:00pm with individual cups of ashes and oil.

West Kish is once again holding their Ash Wednesday Prayer Vigil. If you would like to participate, please sign-up in the narthex or speak with Pastor Ela.

Camp Mount Luther Sunday

Transfiguration Sunday, February 14, 2021, has been designated by the Upper Susquehanna Synod Council to be recognized each year as "Mount Luther Sunday" to help promote outdoor ministries in the synod. Anne Harshbarger is our 'camperson' representative and will be updating us on CML's activities during COVID and plans for transitioning back to a 'new' normal summer schedule.

We hope our congregation will join in celebrating outdoor ministries by offering financial support, by keeping the camp staff in prayer, and by participating in the numerous events and activities this ministry offers.

Synod Assembly representatives: Anne Harshbarger has eagerly agreed to be one of our representatives for Synod Assembly which will be held by Zoom in June. We need one more representative! If you have internet you will be able to participate from your home. Please let Carol, Kelly or Pastor Ela know if you are interested.

Announcements

Pastor Ken Longfield, would like to thank you for your prayers. After 10 days in the hospital and successful heart surgery, he is now home.

Lent begins this Wednesday, February 17th. Available in the narthex are two devotionals. The first, *A Season of Grace* is large print, and is written by Seniors for Seniors. The second, *Steadfast Love* is based on the works of Henri Nouwen. Each one is well-written and will be a nice addition to your daily meditation during this Lenten season.

Please contact the church office or your good shepherd if you would like to have one/both mailed to you.

Information for the February 28 congregational meeting can be found in member mailboxes. If you would like to have it mailed, please contact the church office or your good shepherd.

The daycare is doing a calendar raffle fundraiser in April. Gift cards and items are being donated by local businesses and individuals. If you would be willing to help by giving something which can be included in the raffle, please contact Carol Fultz (935-0140). The calendars will be available to purchase next month.

January 1 thru February 11, 2021

Last week's attendance ~ 17 Offering ~ \$ 1,770.00

St. John's ~ Income \$ 25,007.82 Expense \$ 22,426.78*

Net Income \$ 2,581.04

*In order to have the financial report reflect the "actual" income and expense, the Gladys Mahady Bequest which was recently moved to investments, **will no longer** be included in the weekly report totals.

Ed Bilich will provide further explanation at the congregational meeting.

Daycare ~ Income \$ 16,049.51 Expense \$ 25,326.23

Net Income \$ -9,276.72

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

Camp Mount Luther, as a place set apart by God, is located on 400 acres in Union County, PA. The camp proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ, in the beauty of creation, serving the Upper Susquehanna Synod (ELCA) and the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania (ECUSA). We are committed to serving and being in partnership with the interdenominational, interfaith, and broader community.

God's Mission for Us: Sharing Christ, Planting Seeds.

Our Purpose Statement: A year-round ministry providing resources and experiences in faith formation, worship, recreation, and intentional Christian community for all ages.

Our Vision: Cultivate and integrate strong partnerships between Camp Mount Luther and all expressions of God's church.

During our summer program, we provide a staff trained in providing a safe emotional, physical, and spiritual experience for participants to grow in their faith. We teach our campers creation stewardship and encourage them to effectively use their outdoor leisure time, promoting good sportsmanship.

Created as children of God, we strive to improve participants' sense of self-worth, helping them discover their identity and vocation. Through that discovery, we promote service to others and Christian hospitality. We encourage participants to live a life of discipleship and Christian leadership.

Learn more at www.campmountluther.org

