

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church:

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Transfiguration Sunday
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
March 2, 2025
10:30 am

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

We gather to “remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy”, thanking God for the gift of rest. Welcome! We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way.

Focus for Today

There has never been a prophet like Moses. Elijah too, was a great prophet. And so, these two great ones are they who appeared with Christ Jesus on the mount of transfiguration. The three are seen there in glorious splendor within the gathered cloud (certainly a reference to God in the cloud of the exodus). As splendid a scene as this was (Peter was clearly moved), David reminds us that it is God who is holy; it is he who speaks in the pillar of cloud. As faithful as Moses and Elijah were, it is Christ who is faithful even when we are faithless ([2 Tim 2:13](#)). So, Moses and Elijah fade from the disciples’ vision; only Christ remains, and God tells us to listen to him.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude

“In Christ Alone”

Praise Band

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome and Prayer

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Gathering Song

“Blessed Be Your Name”

*The Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, †Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Hear the word of the Lord from 1 John 1:8-10...

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

(Silence for personal confession)

P: Most merciful Father,

C: Although in Christ our light has come, too much we prefer the darkness of sin. We do not let your holy light shine in our lives so others may see our good works and glorify you. We are deeply sorry and humbly repent. Forgive us and fill us with your Spirit. Give us once again the joy of your salvation; and send us out to proclaim your strong saving love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Arise, shine, for your Light has come; and the glorious mercy of the Lord shines round about you. In the name of and by the authority of our Savior Jesus Christ, I announce the forgiveness of your sin. May the Holy Spirit strengthen your faith, heal your spirit, and equip you to proclaim the greatness of the Lord until he comes in glory. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

All: God of majesty, through Jesus' transfiguration you reveal him as your beloved Son. Keep us faithful in the promise that through the cross and the empty tomb we are joint heirs with Christ and will one day enjoy the fullness of your glory for eternity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

ESV pg. 177

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99 (read responsively)

99 The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

²The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

³Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

4 The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵ Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool!

Holy is he!

6 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.

⁷ In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them; they kept his testimonies and the statute that he gave them.

8 O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

⁹ Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: Hebrews 3:1-6

ESV pg. 1002

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Holy Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

ESV pg. 867

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Time for Young Disciples

Pastor Shelly

Sermon Prayer

P: May the Spirit of the Lord be in my heart and on my lips so that I may sincerely and humbly, courageously and effectively proclaim the Good News.

C: And may the Spirit of the Lord touch our ears that we may listen carefully. Touch our minds that we may understand correctly and touch our hearts that we may respond to that message courageously.

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sermon

Ephesians 2:13-22

Pastor Wayne DeWet

Apostles Creed

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.

* Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer

Sending
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Blessing

Ministry and Mission Moments

*Closing Songs *“How Great is Our God”*
 “Sing, Sing, Sing”

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve
Ministry and Mission Moments

Your offering to the Lord's work through Grace. There is a **box for offering** located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord's work.

The Backpack program is asking for donations for the program. They are asking for fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups and peanut butter cups, small individual boxes of cereal, & small individual microwave meal cups. There is a labeled box in the south vestibule for your donations.

Next Packing will be March 4, 2025 at 6:00 pm JC Methodist Church.

Calling All Young Adults Ages 18-30 You and your friends are gathering Sunday, March 9 at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall (north end). Purpose: young adults doing life together as followers of Jesus. Our focus topic will be What is Your Purpose in Life?

Easter flower order forms are available at the back of the church. Orders need to be returned by Sunday, March 23rd.

Today, March 2, the Luther League will **host** their monthly **breakfast**. This month we would like to **raise funds** to buy Bibles for the Jackson Center students that are in LifeWise. Currently the classroom has Bibles, but we would love for each student to be able to take one home. Each Bible costs right around \$20 and there are currently 18 students registered in the program. We know this program is working. One student who had never even heard of Jesus before now prays every single night before bed. This student is so happy to be at school on Wednesday's to learn more about the Bible and Jesus. Please consider helping us reach our goal.

Jerusalem at Passover the 2025 midweek Lenten dramas. We are in need of 6 men and 3 women to read dramatic parts from the balcony. Please speak with one of the pastors if you are willing to read a part for midweek Wednesday 7:00 pm worship.

Catechism Connection

Catechism youth continue with Sunday morning studies at 9:15 am. Wednesday catechism is worship at 7:00 pm. Please continue submitting sermon notes (either in the offering plate, the offering box, your Sunday school teacher).

Adult Sunday Morning Sunday School at 9:15

In March Adult Sunday School begins a series on the second article of the Apostle's Creed. Who is Jesus? How does He affect our daily lives? Sunday school begins at 9:15 am each Sunday; the adults meet in the sanctuary.

Joining Jesus on His Mission – An Adventure for Your Life. This study group will **meet Today**, March 2nd at 3:30 pm to report on the mission work accomplished and where God is working. "Will alter the way you see your life as a follower of Jesus and take you beyond living your life for Jesus to living life with Jesus. Simple, powerful, and applicable insights show you how to be on mission and recognize where Jesus is already at work." Greg Finke

2026 MISSION TRIP to Tanzania:

On March 2nd Pastor Wayne will be giving the sermon at both services and during the Adult Sunday School hour will discuss information regarding a 2026 mission trip to Tanzania. Whether you are interested in going on the trip or not, this is a great opportunity to ask questions, learn more about the ministry, and hear the amazing stories of God's love. After the late service, Pastor Wayne will stick around to have further discussion about the mission trip. The Mission Committee will provide lunch for those that want to stay and hear more about the upcoming trip. For those individuals that are interested in staying to learn more and eating lunch, please sign the sheet at the back of the church or let a Mission Committee member know. We would love to get a large group back to Tanzania!

To **designate Thrivent Choice Dollars**, follow these steps:

1. Log in to your Thrivent account at thrivent.com. If you don't have a user ID and password, you can register now.
2. Once logged in, **look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen.**
3. You can also direct Choice Dollars by phone by calling 800-847-4836 and following the prompts to direct Choice Dollars or hear the Thrivent Choice program Terms and Conditions.

March WOC Collections

Personal Care items for Fish Pond Food Pantry

Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Shampoo, Conditioner,
Liquid hand soap, Bar Soap, Deodorant
Barb Wical, Chairperson

If you have **full, queen, or king size FLAT sheets** that you no longer need, the WOC could use them for making our quilts for NALC disaster. They do not need to be in perfect condition. Please put them in the baskets in either vestibule. Thank you!!!

Thank you for purchasing the pork meals that benefited the Tanzania Orphanage and Outreach Ministry! We served approximately 225 meals! Also, a huge thank you to Greg and Jason for providing another delicious dinner and appreciation to the teens that assisted in being the runners! Another successful year!
Mission Committee