

## LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026

PRELUDE "*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*" P. Manz

### WELCOME

*The assembly stands at the Pastor's invitation.*

### CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\dagger$  one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**

**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**

**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**

**Turn us to seek your face.**

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**

**Amen.**

The former things have passed away,  
and new things God now declares:  
Like a spring of water that never fails,  
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,  
and forgives your sin in  $\dagger$  Jesus' name.  
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,  
and bless you with the gift of peace.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG “*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*” ELW 308 V. 1-4**



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright!  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine,  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love,  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son

You shine with  
 and deep with -  
 at once there  
 you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - plly - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n-ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY** (*Assisting Minister*)

Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*You may be seated as we hear the word of God.*

## WORD

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

### **FIRST READING Exodus 24:12-18**

A reading from Exodus.

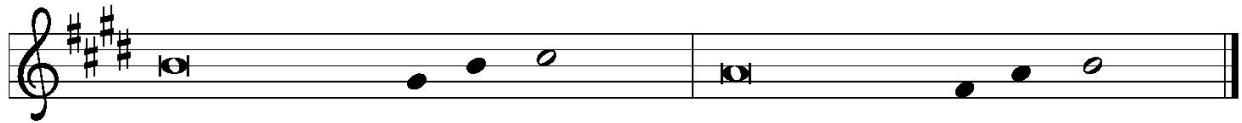
<sup>12</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup> To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM Psalm 2



<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations <sup>1</sup> in an uproar?  
Why do the peoples mutter <sup>1</sup> empty threats?

<sup>2</sup> **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes <sup>1</sup> plot together,  
against the Lord and against the <sup>1</sup> Lord's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup> "Let us break their <sup>1</sup> yoke," they say;  
"let us cast off their <sup>1</sup> bonds from us."

<sup>4</sup> **God whose throne is in heav- <sup>1</sup> en is laughing;  
the Lord holds them <sup>1</sup> in derision.**

<sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God <sup>1</sup> speaks to them,  
and in rage fills <sup>1</sup> them with terror.

<sup>6</sup> **"As for me, I have anoint- <sup>1</sup> ed my king  
upon Zion, my <sup>1</sup> holy mountain."**

<sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree <sup>1</sup> of the Lord,  
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- <sup>1</sup> gotten you."

<sup>8</sup> **Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for <sup>1</sup> your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for <sup>1</sup> your possession.**

## **SECOND READING 2 Peter 1:16-21**

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

A reading from 2 Peter.

<sup>16</sup> We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup> For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

<sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly rises to welcome the gospel.*

## ALLELUIA



**Cantor:** "You are my son, this day have I be-got-en you".

All repeat the Alleluia verse

## GOSPEL Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Assembly listens to the gospel as it is read*

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

## HYMN OF THE DAY “*How Good, Lord, to Be Here!*” ELW 315 Choir V. 3



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar-ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor-rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes-sen-gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp-tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

**Pastor:** Dear Friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

*(Assisting Minister):* Let us pray:

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The presiding minister addresses the congregation.*

*The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**Response: I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**Response: I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**Response: I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the  
virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the  
dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended  
into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the  
Father, and he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

*Assisting Minister:* Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

## **WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS**

*New members and their sponsors please come forward. The congregation may be seated.*

*Pastor:* We present these brothers and sisters in Christ who desire to join this community of faith:

*Assisting Minister:* Let us pray. Gathering God, you knit your people together in the body of Christ and form congregations to do your good work. Be present in our

feasting and praying and our worship and service, so that this community reflects your abundance and desire for the church on earth today and always. **Amen**

**Pastor:** We give thanks for the unique stories and talents you bring to this community. The church is a living organism, and your commitment adds value and energy to who we are as a congregation. You are not alone in this journey. Your sponsors and this entire congregation are here to support you.

**Sponsors:** We promise to welcome your faith as it flows through life's joys and challenges. We desire for this church to be a safe place where you can show up as your true self and be received with love and grace.

**All:** **Faith is formed in community, and we are all in this together. At St. Peter, we choose curiosity over certainty and strive to honor other's faith expressions and life experiences with respect and love.**

**Council Member:** This is a community filled with amazing and engaged people who seek to be a community focused on Christ, equipping members to live out their faith, reaching out in love and compassion and ministering to all in need. We are not, however, perfect. We will disagree and make mistakes but always strive for reconciliation and error on the side of love.

Knowing this, do you desire to become members of this congregation, investing in the future

**New Members:** I choose the fullness of this community!

**Council Member:** Will you show up with this community for worship, study, and prayer.

**New Members:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Council Member:** Will you practice being curious about scripture, your neighbor, and God's ongoing creation in daily life?

**New Members:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

**Council Member:** Will you share your sense of call and unique talents with a spirit of generosity in the life of this congregation?

**New Members:** I will, and I ask God to help me.

*New members and sponsors face the congregation.*

**All: We welcome you as members of this congregation, inspired and invested in the ministry we all share. You are beloved, and your presence here is a gift! May God bless these new relationships and our common call as agents of God's mercy and the abundance the world needs!**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Assisting Minister)**

*The following response will be used after each petition:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. We pray for Hope St. John's of Oscoda and their supply pastors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve. we especially pray for those on St. Peter's Prayer List (*refer to those on the prayer list in the bulletin*) and those for whom we pray aloud or in the silence of our heart. (*Slight Pause*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

All are invited to offer your sign of Christ's peace to those gathered around you today.

*The assembly may be seated.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*The offering gathered at the beginning of the service for the mission of the church including the care of those in need is presented to the altar. See the back of the bulletin for online giving options.*

### OFFERTORY SONG “*Christ Upon the Mountain Stands*” - R. Lehman

#### OFFERING PRAYER (Assisting Minister)

Let us pray.

God of majesty,  
no eye has seen, no ear has heard  
what you have prepared for those who love you,  
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.  
Use what we have gathered  
to feed us with the reign of God come near,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

#### DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE



The musical notation consists of six staves of G clef music. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with each line of text corresponding to a staff. The lyrics are as follows:

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,  
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;  
who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glo - ry and love,  
that our darkness should give way to your own bril - liant light.  
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,  
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G clef, common time, with lyrics in English. The lyrics are:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Almighty Lord,  
we praise your shining light, your glowing grace.  
From before the earth's foundation,  
you loved us and promised us life forever.  
Within the earth's deep sadness,  
we laud your great and glorious might.  
Despite our tears and sinning,  
we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son, our Morning Star.  
Christ is our diamond bright,  
our treasure dear.  
He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love.  
He keeps us yours and fails us never—  
today, tomorrow, and every day.

On the night before his great salvation,  
he 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.

With joy we tell our story:

**Alleluia!**

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal.  
Refresh our souls with this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of your Son.  
Nourish us as branches of your tree,  
and enlighten us with your undying flame.

We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son,  
we exult in the Spirit.

Transport us in our yearning,  
and be for us the end and the beginning,  
our purest pleasure, our victorious crown,  
our never-ending love.

And so we pray and praise:

Amen, Amen, Amen

**Amen, Amen, Amen**

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

*The assembly may be seated.*

## **COMMUNION SONG “As with Gladness Men of Old” ELW 302 Vs 4**

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.

COMMUNION SONG “*Beautiful Savior*” ELW 838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - - ior, King of cre - a - - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - - ior, Lord of the na - - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Son of rob'd in flow'rs of bloom - ing Man!  
 bright the spar - - kling stars on spring;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - - rowing spir - - it sing.  
 than all the an - - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - - er - more be thine!

*The assembly may remain seated.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** (*Assisting Minister*)

Let us pray.

Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen**

## **SENDING**

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The assembly stands to receive the blessing.*

## **FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA “Alleluia, Song of Sweetness”** D. Busarow *Assembly Sings V. 4*

Therefore in our hymns we pray thee Grant us, blessed Trinity.  
At the last to keep Thine Easter in our home beyond the sky,  
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

## **BLESSING**

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG “*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!*” ELW 308 V. 5-6

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with  
 2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -  
 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,

God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!

Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,  
 In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es  
 Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here

you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,  
 of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though  
 heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your  
 and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -

ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich  
 dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and  
 mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For  
 lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life

in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.  
 you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.  
 for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!  
 Our joy be all with music crowned,  
 our voices gaily blending!  
 For Christ goes with us all the way—  
 today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
 His love is never ending!  
 Sing out! Ring out!  
 Jubilation!  
 Exultation!  
 Tell the story!  
 Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,  
 the Lord we love is first and last,  
 the end and the beginning!  
 He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
 transport us to that happy place  
 beyond all tears and sinning!  
 Amen! Amen!  
 Come, Lord Jesus!  
 Crown of gladness!  
 We are yearning  
 for the day of your returning.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in Peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE “*O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright*” D. Buxtehude**

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