

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD ~ MARCH 2, 2025



Transfiguration

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”

Office.....(660) 668 - 3537
Pastor’s Home.....(660) 668 - 0881
Email.....office@stpauls.me
Website.....www.stpauls.me
Facebook.....www.facebook.com/stpaulscolecamp
YouTube.....www.youtube.com/stpaulscolecamp



If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Transfiguration Opening Dialog & Hymn

We gather in the name of the Father, **the one who speaks,**
and of the † Son, **God's chosen and our light,**
and of the Holy Spirit, **our comforter and guide. Amen.**

The light of Christ has brought us to this place.

Lord, it is good for us to be here.

In the midst of our darkness, Jesus brings holy light! Alleluia!

Pierce our darkness; scatter the shadows of doubt and fear! Shine your light, O Lord. Alleluia!

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

#308 vs. 1 & 2

Today we are celebrating the holy light that illuminated Jesus. We celebrate his transfiguration on the mountain. In darkness and light, we are God's beloved children.

The love and light that comes from God has claimed us as God's own!

What we have seen has changed us. Even though we may tremble in fear, we come down the mountain to share this news.

On the highest mountains or in the deepest valleys, our God remains steadfast.

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

#308 vs. 3 & 4

God of grace, sometimes discipleship is difficult. We see you standing in front of us and we look for glory. Then you tell us to expect heartbreak and challenge.

We get a glimpse of your glory, and we are confused, frightened, unsure of what to say.

God of grace, made known in Jesus the Christ, in the challenge and in the glory, you call us to look toward you, to listen to you.

Grant us the grace and wisdom to watch, to listen, to follow, to learn, and, in the end, to possibly understand, as we join you on The Way.

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

#308 vs. 5 & 6

As we conclude another season in the church we remember our epiphanies of the divine, the moments that change us, and we are sent to tell the world.

With our hope in God, we are light for this world. Praise to you, O Christ! Alleluia!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Exodus 34:29 - 35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been

commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 99

¹ The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

² **The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.**

³ Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

⁴ **O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them,**

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

⁸ **O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:12 -- 4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

4:1 Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #815 vs. 1

Gospel

Luke 9:28 - 36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

"How Good, Lord, to Be Here!"

#315

Apostle's Creed

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

**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.**

**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 Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering

please stand in body or spirit

Offertory "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

#815 vs. 2

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

At the Altar

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.

Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#631

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#834

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Farewell to the Alleluias

Jesus Christ, our light, has come into the world to shine God’s truth into our hearts. Alleluia!

In Christ there is no darkness at all. Alleluia!

Jesus was baptized with the Holy Spirit, bringing forth life from the waters.

We share in that baptism, receiving a new life through Christ.

As we enter the story of Jesus’ suffering and death, we leave behind the Alleluias until Christ is raised from the dead.

Let us enter the story, journeying with him to the cross.

As we enter this season of Lent, let us bid farewell to the Alleluias.

We have seen the light of God. Alleluia! Amen!

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

#318

Dismissal

Guided by the light, we go in peace to prepare for the journey.

Thanks be to God!

“THE HOPE OF CHRIST”



Welcome: On the Mount of Transfiguration, God said, “This is my Son ... listen to him” (Luke 9:35). We gather to listen to Jesus. Welcome to all.

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Ron Eickhoff, Laura Ruth Oelrichs, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, Renee Weller and Kyle Luetjen.



Praying
for you.....

Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Don Brooks, Dernitta Brooks, Mike Hinkel, Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), Fred Beaman, Kylee Scheel (family of Teresa Viebrock), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Stacy Morrison (friend of Teresa Viebrock), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kaleb Mundy, Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Jamie Simon, Joe Campbell, Liz Smart, Art Heimsoth, Cliff Eckhoff, Carmilla Swaim and husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff), Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan) and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home: Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Laura Ruth Oelrichs, Marie Viebrock & Florence VonHolten: *GSCC*.

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (son of Matt & Isabel Hamilton and grandson of Judie VonHolten), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



With Sympathy: We also pray for those families who have lost loved ones; family and friends of Ronnie Logan.



Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.

Shrove Sunday Pancake Lunch: Today, the Luther League is hosting a congregational Shrove Sunday pancake lunch to celebrate the last Sunday before Lent begins. It will be right after worship in the Fellowship Hall, and include pancakes, sausages, hash browns, and more. It's our own little Mardi Gras celebration and all are invited! A free-will offering to support the youth will be available.



Ash Wednesday: We begin the season of Lent with the remembrance of who we are: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Ash Wednesday is a solemn day of prayer that begins our 40 day season of Lent, where we will be invited into the discipline of Lent: self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love. Join us for an Ash Wednesday worship service on **March 5th**, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. (There is no Simple Supper this evening.)

Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **March 6th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.

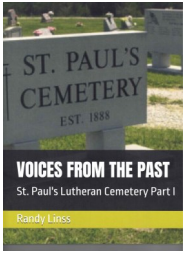


Don't Forget: On Sunday, **March 9th** daylight saving time begins. Be sure and set your clocks forward on Saturday evening.

Junior Lutheran Volunteer Opportunity: Pastor Kim has connected with a church who volunteers monthly at the Community Café in Sedalia. The Community Café is a soup kitchen founded and managed by local high school students. Immanuel UCC invited us to join them in helping serve dinner. We will join them on Monday, **March 10th**, starting at 4:30 pm. The Community Café is located at 417 W Pettis St, Sedalia. Anyone is welcome to join our group: Junior Lutherans, Luther League youth who need community service hours), or anyone else! Please contact Pastor Kim with questions or to RSVP.

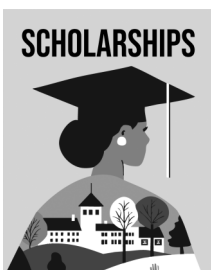


Worship: There will be no Casual Worship Service on Saturday, **March 15th.**



Voices From The Past: Local author, Randy Linss, has put together a book called *Voices from the Past: St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery*. In it he chronicles every person/family buried in our church cemetery, including pictures of the headstone and the people as they were available. It became such a large collection that it had to be printed in two volumes. They are available on Amazon, either individually or to purchase together: \$35.90 + tax for paperback, or \$53.90 + tax for hardback. Randy would like to offer a special deal to St. Paul's members. He will place a bulk order for anyone who wants to order these books, charging \$30 for the paperback set or \$40 for the hardback set. A copy of both volumes are available at the church, a set Randy has donated to us. To purchase with the special price, please sign up at church and provide payment: cash or check made to Randy Linss. Please sign up by **March 16**. We are grateful for this collected history and hope that you will appreciate this collection as well.

Mid-MO Bible Camp: Save the date for this year's Mid-MO Bible Camp, Sunday, **July 20 - Thursday, July 24**, at Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Bible Camp is for youth who have completed 4th grade but not yet entered 10th grade. Adult volunteers are also needed, whether for a couple hours or a couple days! More information is coming soon.



Lynn Starr Education Scholarship: This scholarship is a part of the ministry of the Central States Women of the ELCA. The scholarship is available to a female member of any ELCA congregation who are seeking post high school education. (There is a limit of one award recipient per congregation.) it is a one-year non-renewable scholarship.

Applications can be found at each usher stand, and are to be postmarked no later than April 25, 2025. Recipients of the scholarship will be notified in May 2025. Any questions, please contact Janice Gerken (660-281-7380).

Staffing Update: After serving as church secretary for many, many years here at St. Paul's, Shirley recently announced her intention to retire from the position. First, let us all offer our thanks to Shirley for all that she has done for St. Paul's. We are truly grateful and are working on plans to celebrate her time. Secondly, we are now beginning the search for someone to fill that position. The office is currently staffed for 18 hours each week across four days. If you or anyone you know might be interested in applying for the secretary position please speak with Pastor Stephen or Jake Jackson.



~ * ~ **IN OUR COMMUNITY** ~ * ~



Concert: State Fair Community College will present its Spring Instrumental Concert on Tuesday, **March 11**, starting at 7:00 pm in the Stauffacher Theatre on campus. Both the jazz band and concert band will play. The Fall Choral Concert will follow later that week on Thursday, **March 13**, at 7:00 pm. There will be a few familiar faces on stage. Admission is free.

Fish Fry: The Sophomore Class will host a fish dinner on Sunday, **March 16th** from 11:00am until 1:00pm. Adults: \$15.00, Kids: \$12.00 and Kids 1-4 are free. The menu will include fish, cornbread, salads and desserts.



MID-WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

Ash Wednesday March 5th
 Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary

1st week of Lent March 12th
 2nd week of Lent March 19th
 3rd week of Lent March 26th
 4th week of Lent April 2nd
 5th week of Lent April 9th

Services at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall



Palm Sunday April 13th at 10:00am Procession of Palms
 Maundy Thursday April 17th at 7:00pm Stripping of the Altar
 Good Friday April 18th at 7:00pm Service of Darkness
 Easter Saturday April 19th 5:30pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunrise April 20th at 7:00am Breakfast to follow
 Easter Sunday April 20th at 10:00am Holy Communion



LENTEN BREAKFAST

The Cole Camp Area Church Alliance will host a Lenten breakfast here at St. Paul's Church each Wednesday morning beginning at 7:30am. *(Please note: If Cole Camp schools are closed due to weather, the breakfast will also be cancelled that day.)* Everyone is invited to attend each week. The following churches will host each week:

March 12th Hoy Cross and St. John's Lutheran
 March 19th First Baptist and Ionia United Methodist
 March 26th Mt. Hulda and Trinity Lutheran
 April 2nd Faith Chapel and Grace Fellowship
 April 9th St. Paul's Lutheran and Sts. Peter and Paul's Catholic

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, March 2:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion at the Altar
	AW	Shrove Pancake Lunch
Wednesday, March 5:	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Thursday, March 6:	8:00am	BCHD
Saturday, March 8:	5:30pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, March 9:	8:45am	Confirmation Class
	9:00am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

March 2	Shrove Pancake Lunch
March 5	Ash Wednesday
March 9	First Sunday in Lent
March 9	Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 20	First Day of Spring

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist Lois Viebrock
Pianist Jeannette VonHolten
AV Technicians Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar Guild Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers Melinda Strathman, Head Usher
..... Nicholas Dieckman, Mark Oelrichs, Randy Schlesselman & Steve Triplett



Transfiguration of our Lord ~ March 2, 2025

Assisting Minister Janice Gerken
Communion Assistants At the Altar
Reader Jim Gumbel
Children's Sermon Pastor Stephen Zeller
Acolytes Tristin Fox & Jace Tinney
Flowers Tammie Heimsoth



First Sunday of Lent ~ March 9, 2025

Assisting Minister Melisa Balke
Communion Assistants Trisha Goosen & Stephanie Randall
Reader Children
Children's Sermon Jennifer Rehmer
Acolytes Grant Kullman & Kelsey Viebrock
Flowers Sandy Schlesselman