



# Transfiguration Sunday

Worship with Holy Communion

March 2, 2025

## Welcome to Bethel Lutheran Church



We are glad you are here, and we pray God will be real to you as you worship with us. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ congregation; therefore, we invite all people, including those of all races, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientations, ages, economic levels, and abilities. God loves all creation and holds us all, so we welcome you who walk through our doors and you who are outside those doors. We honor and appreciate the rich diversity of age, sexual orientation, race, belief, emotional and physical health, gender identity and expression, marital status and station in life bring to the Bethel family and our relationships. We commit ourselves to embracing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care.

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**Communion** - We will celebrate Holy Communion together via Zoom, as well as gathered in person. Please have bread/cracker(s) and a cup of wine/grape juice ready if you and those with you would like to participate. If you do not have access to wine or grape juice, you may receive Communion without the cup—Christ is present in the bread, as Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life.” (John 6:35)

## GATHERING

**Prelude**

**Shlomo's Choice**

By



*Restrooms are located in the basement on the east side of the building. An all gender restroom is located behind the worship space next to the church office. Please ask the Usher or Greeter for assistance. There is also a rocking chair in the rear of the Sanctuary. Please use it as you wish.*

**Address** 5658 North Denver Avenue • **Portland, Oregon** 97217 • **Email** [bethel@bethelpdx.org](mailto:bethel@bethelpdx.org) • **Website** [www.bethelpdx.org](http://www.bethelpdx.org)

## Confession and Forgiveness

*Please stand in body or spirit*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act  
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;  
we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.**

**Show us your lovingkindness.**

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

**Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:

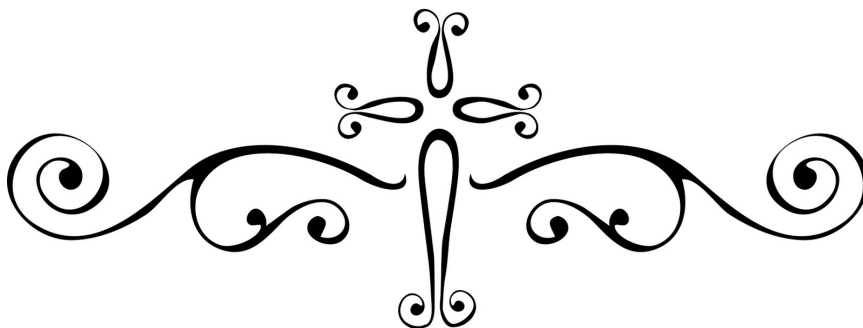
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine."

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**



# Gathering Song of Praise

# Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God's ho - ly name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Cameroon traditional, collected by Elaine Hanson  
Music: CAMEROON PRAISE, Cameroon processional; arr. Ralph M. Johnson  
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## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together:

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

### Scripture Reading

**Exodus 34:29-35**

A reading from Exodus.

<sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup> 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, <sup>35</sup> 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.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



## Scripture Reading

## 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

<sup>12</sup>Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; <sup>16</sup>but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>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.

<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>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.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand in body or spirit*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Gospel Reading

**Luke 9:28-36**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> 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. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> 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*

## Children's Time

## Sermon



# Hymn of the Day

# Shine, Jesus, Shine

Please Stand in body or spirit

*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 grace and mer - cy; send forth your Word,

Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing,  
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness,

in the midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing;  
so our fac - es dis - play your like - ness,

Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

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

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

## Prayers of Intercession

*The response to each prayer is: God of grace, **hear our prayer.***

## Sharing of Peace — *Take time to share the peace on Zoom and in person*

*Please be seated*

## Offering

*You may use one of our options for giving: The offering plate will be passed by the ushers, Venmo @BethelLutheran-Church phone # digits 6064, PayPal, see our website [bethelpdx.org](http://bethelpdx.org) for link, online at: <http://bethelpdx.org/donate> Additionally you may give by mail. Thank you for supporting the many ministries of Bethel!*

## Offertory

### OFFERING PRAYER

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 Lord's Prayer

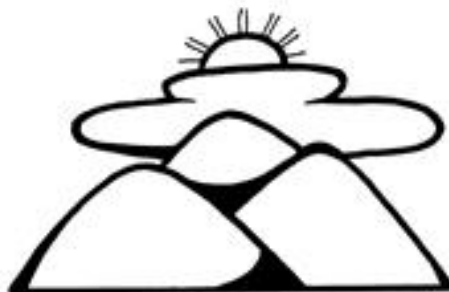
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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.**





# SENDING

## Announcements

### Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God  
✠ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

**Amen.**

### Sending Song

**Shlomo's Choice**  
By

### The Sending.

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**



Stewardship of Service	This week – Mar. 2, 2025	Next week – Mar. 9, 2025
Ministers	All Baptized Members of Bethel	All Baptized Members of Bethel
Lay Leader/Pastor	Jim Van Dyke	Pastor Leon LaCross
Music Director	Colin Shepard	Shlomo Farber
Reader	TBD	TBD
Zoom Host	<b>Joann Noll</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>

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## Pray For:

**Pray for the people in the Holy Land, all of the Middle East, Ukraine, Georgia, and Yemen** as they suffer war, violence, terror, and retribution. Show the world a path to peace and justice.

**Let us continue to pray for all victims of gun violence.**

**Pray for peace and justice and safety among our houseless neighbors.** Help us understand how we can share your love with them.

**Pray for Bethel leaders,** including Pastor Leon LaCross, Music Director Shlomo Farber, Admin Assistant Kerry Czuba, the 2024 Church Council members, and for all the members and friends of Bethel Lutheran Church.

**Pray for the Bethel Youth Drop-In Center Board** as we begin our search for a director and staff.

**Pray for Shlomo Farber,** that his family and friends in Israel may be safe.

**Pray for Julia Rankin** as she finishes her first semester at seminary.

**Pray for Sean Fitzgerald** (Nikki Bucholz), Kim Bucholz's son-in-law who has been deployed to the Middle East.

**Pray for our children,** as they anticipate the coming holidays, that they know hope, peace, joy and love.

**Pray for the teachers, school staff, parents, guardians, and grandparents** who care for our children.

**Pray for the following:**

- **Mark Sjostrom,** Svea's uncle, as he recovers from cancer treatments and health complications
- **Faith Moser** (mother of Joann Noll) and her daughters as Faith moves into assisted living.
- **David Giles** as he discontinues treatment for lung cancer.
- **Leo Lawrence** for recovery from neuropathy surgery.
- **Laura Day,** mother of Natalie Peterson, in her diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- **Glenn Chase,** in thanks for his continued good health.
- **Jackie Calder,** in thanks for healing and health that allows her to travel and to accomplish loving volunteer work.
- **Lorraine Griffey** for health, stamina, and joy.
- **Rick Van Dyke,** brother to Jim Van Dyke, as Rick lives with the uncertainty of his illness and works with his medical team to prepare for treatment.
- **Darin Schmidt,** a former Bethelite, and his wife Jessica, as they navigate a diagnosis of liver cancer.
- **Ronda Bard** to get to the root of her pain and get back to her healthy self.
- **Bob Enke,** cousin of JulieAnn Edman, for healing from a fall and for getting the care he needs.
- **Denny Hepp,** for treatment & care as he battles brain cancer.
- **Miles Bard** for health and stamina.
- **Pam Coffman** as she navigates treatment for lung cancer.
- **Karen Anderson** that she starts feeling better soon.
- **Marlo Edman** who is having surgery on March 6<sup>th</sup>, for a speedy recovery
- **JulieAnn Edman** for useful MRI results.

Pray for all those who have passed away that they experience the loving embrace of God's love.

Continuing prayers for well-being for our loved ones Timothy, Elizabeth, Faith, Jim, Rob, Jacob, Miles, Andrew, Nash, Matthew, and Patricia--may they walk in light and peace.

Pray we know that God is close and that we are open to receiving and sharing God's love.

Pray for Bethel Lutheran Church.

## What's Up This Week at Bethel!

03/02 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
03/02 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom  
02/23 – 03/03 Pr. Leon is out of the Office  
03/05 Ash Wednesday!  
03/05 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Cash Oregon  
03/05 5:30 PM Girl Scouts Meet  
03/05 6:30 PM New Horizons Band Practice  
03/06 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Cash Oregon  
03/06 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Bethel Happy Hour  
03/08 10:30 AM Players Room Clean Out  
03/09 9:00 AM Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom  
03/09 10:00 AM Sunday Worship: in person or on Zoom



### Get Your Ash Over Here at Bethel!

**Wednesday, March 5, 10:00am-4:00pm.**

Looking to get those ashes? You can drive by, stop by or by appointment! If you are close-in Portland, Pr. Leon will give the imposition of ashes right at your door!

Let this be a tangible beginning to Lent as we begin the inward journey to fuel the fire of faith.

email: [bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org](mailto:bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org)

call: 503.285.4919

### Bethel Women's Prayer Group is starting up again in time for Lent.

Join Carol Knight & JulieAnn Edman for a morning of conversation, contemplation and prayer.

We will begin at 8:30 AM at Carol's.

Dates:

March 8

March 22

April 5

April 19

If you are interested in joining, please call or email the office: 503.285.4919, [bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org](mailto:bethellutheran@bethelpdx.org)



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## Bethel Lutheran Church

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Your household income is below **\$67,000**
- You don't have any of the following:
  - rental property
  - adjustments on education expenses (box 4 or 6 of your 1098-T)
  - self employed income with any of the following (over \$35k in expenses, a loss for the year, inventory, employees, depreciation or amortization, or business use of the home).

## February 5 - April 10, 2025

### WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- Social Security card / ITIN card or letter (for everyone on the return)
- Valid Photo IDs for taxpayer(s)
- All W-2's, 1099's, or other income
- Form 1095-A if health insurance via [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov)
- Last year's tax return
- Routing and account numbers for your bank account

### Other common tax information:

- Child care expenses
- Mortgage and property tax statements
- Education expenses (1098-T, 1098-E, receipts of expenses)
- Alimony
- Medical Expenses
- Charitable Donations
- Retirement Plan Contributions
- Notices from: IRS, Oregon Dept. of Revenue



**Location:** Bethel Lutheran Church  
*Volunteer Service Provided by MFS CASH Oregon*  
5658 N Denver Ave, Portland, OR 97217

**Hours:** Wed. + Thurs. 10 am- 2 pm

Make an appointment at [cashoregon.org](http://cashoregon.org) or call 503-243-7765