

March 2, 2025

Transfiguration of Our Lord



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 East Dawes Avenue, Somers Point, NJ 08244

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Interim Pastor † Wendolyn Trozzo, Scott J. Breiner, Music Director
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant
Alison Toth, Social Media Consultant

We welcome you to worship here at Grace!

*Note that all text written in **bold** is for congregation participation.
Our hymn songs are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship
red hymnal found in the pews.*

GATHERING

Thank you for joining us as we worship our Lord together!

INTRODUCTION

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

WELCOME

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

PRELUDE

Beautiful Savior

by Gregory Hamilton

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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 or indifference. When we ignore the needs of our neighbors; when we resist your call to oppose injustice; when we give in to scarcity and fear; when 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.**

OPENING HYMN *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* **ELW #774**

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.**

KYRIE **WOV #28**

HYMN OF PRAISE **WOV #29**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

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

GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Take a brief moment to share the peace by greeting someone sitting near you. Verbal greetings are appropriate if you are not comfortable shaking hands or touching.

Please be seated.

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 a- | bove 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 es-^ltablished equity;
you have executed justice and righteous-^lness in Jacob.**

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be-^lfore God's
footstool;

God is the ^lHoly One.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who
call upon your ^lname, O LORD,**

they called upon you, and you ^lanswered them,

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pil-^llar of cloud;

they kept your testimonies and the decree ^lthat you gave them.

⁸ **O LORD our God, you answered ^lthem indeed;**

**you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their ^levil
deeds.**

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's ^lholy hill;
for the LORD our God is the ^lHoly One.

FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

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.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 9th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-36

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

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

Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

ELW #611

THE APOSTLES' 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.

Please be seated.

JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING

Our monthly special noisy offering for the month of March is Friends of Jean Webster (Sister Jean's Kitchen).

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Christ Upon the Mountain Peak

by Paul Bouman

Please stand as you are able.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful

WOV #35

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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *Brief silence.*

At the end of each prayer petition when the worship assistant or pastor says, "God of grace," please respond with "hear our prayer."

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

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.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

WOV #36

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together, we pray as our Lord taught us, saying:

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

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION HYMN	<i>Lamb of God</i>	WOV #39
COMMUNION HYMNS	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	ELW #793
	<i>Beautiful Savior</i>	ELW #838

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will invite worshippers forward to fill the altar railings. Once you have received the wafer and the red wine/white grape juice, place your empty cup in the tray and return to your pew. As places open up, worshippers will fill them in so that communion is a continuous process. If you do not wish to receive communion, or are worshipping with children who have not had First Communion, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing; as you kneel at the railing, cross your arms over your chest to show your preference to the pastor.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN	<i>Alleluia, Song of Gladness</i>	ELW #318
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*Please be seated. Enjoy the postlude music.
and meditate on how God spoke to your heart today.*

Home Reading of the Week

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

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.

Ash Wednesday, March 5

St. John's Lutheran Church, Ocean City:

12:00 PM Bible Study and 1:00 PM Worship & Imposition of Ashes

Grace Lutheran Church:

6:15 PM: Bread & Broth - Sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

7:00 PM: Worship & Imposition of Ashes

Bread and Broth Supper throughout Lent



Join us Thursdays at 6:00PM

in the downstairs Fellowship Hall for supper.

A short worship service will follow in the Fellowship Hall, starting around 6:30. Coming a bit late? Eat as we worship. Come and be blessed!

March 20 and April 3 will be hosted here at Grace.

Please sign up to bring bread, soup, or a salad so we know what food we will have each week. Call the church office or sign up in the narthex on the sign up sheet on Sundays.

March 13, 27, and April 10 will be hosted at St. John's in Ocean City and they will provide supper.

**Luck of the Irish Game Night & Fund Raiser
for our Food Pantry!**



Friday, March 14 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Irish Potluck Dinner, Bingo, and other fun games!

Please sign up in the narthex. Be ready to get your game on and share your green cash or donations for Grace Place Food Pantry!

HAPPENINGS AROUND GRACE THIS WEEK

March 2, 2025—March 9, 2025

Transfiguration of Our Lord 3/2/25

8:00AM Spoken Worship

8:45AM Adult Forum

10:15AM Traditional Worship

Joyful Noise Offering: Friends of Jean Webster (Sister Jean’s Kitchen)

MONDAY 3/3/25

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAY 3/4/25

6:30PM Narcotics Anonymous

7:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY 3/5/25

11:30AM Bayside Duplicate Bridge

6:00PM AA Book Study

7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

THURSDAY 3/6/25

12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous

5:00PM Choir Rehearsal

6:00 AA 12-Step

7:00PM Al-Anon

7:00PM Narcotics Anonymous

Women’s Group

FRIDAY 3/7/25

10:30AM Grace Stitchers

7:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous

SATURDAY 3/8/25

7:30AM & 8:30AM Weight Watchers

1st Sunday in Lent 3/9/25

8:00AM Spoken Worship

8:45AM Adult Forum

10:15AM Traditional Worship

Fellowship: Sponsored by the Bilello Family

SHORE DINER 
Present this bulletin on a Sunday and Shore Diner will donate 20% to Grace Lutheran Church. Present this on any other day, and we will donate 10%.
Shore Diner 6710 Tilton Road Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234 609-641-3669

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Tues 10:00AM-3:00PM

Thurs-Fri 10:00AM-3:00PM