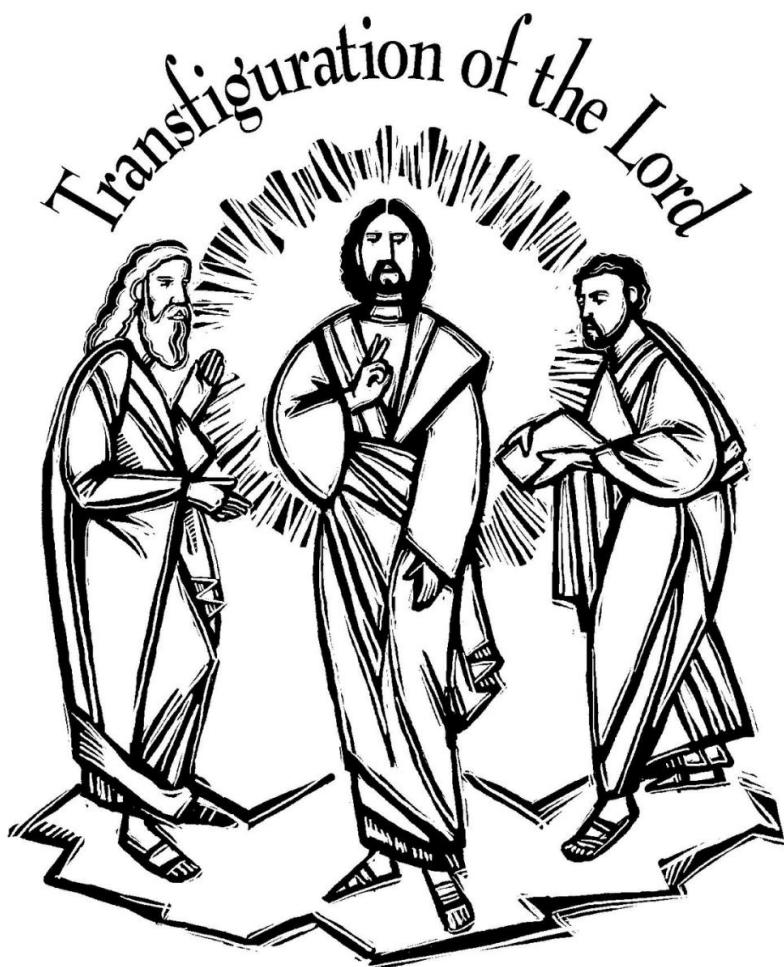


St. Paul Lutheran

Smithville



February 15, 2026

Prelude & Welcome

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.
Mighty God, lover of justice,

**C: 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.**

P: 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 Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

**Gathering Hymn:*

“How Good, Lord, to Be Here!”

ELW 315



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 - depn - 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.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

****Greeting & Call to Worship***

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

C: And also with you.

A: Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop.

C: Help us to follow where you lead and see glimpses of your eternal glory.

A: Help us to listen to you more than we move on our own.

C: Open our hearts and spirits to respond to your directions.

A: Let us always be willing to go to the people wherever they are.

C: So that all may hear your word and receive your blessings.
Amen.

****Prayer of the Day***

A: Let us pray. O God,

C: 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.

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

¹² 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.” ¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴ 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.”

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 2

R: Why do the nations conspire
and the peoples plot in vain?

**C: The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and his anointed, saying,**

R: "Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast their cords from us."

**C: He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord has them in derision.**

R: Then he will speak to them in his wrath
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

C: "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."

R: I will tell of the decree of the Lord:
He said to me, "You are my son;
today I have begotten you.

**C: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage
and the ends of the earth your possession.**

R: You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

**C: Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

R: Serve the Lord with fear;
with trembling bow in worship;

**C: lest the Lord be angry,
and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.**

R: Happy are all who take refuge in God.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the book of Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 17:1-9

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

⁴ 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." ⁵ 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!"

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ 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.”

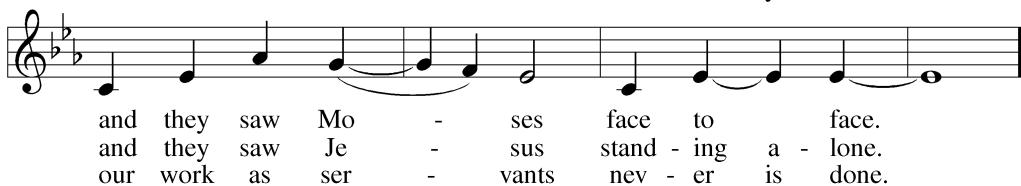
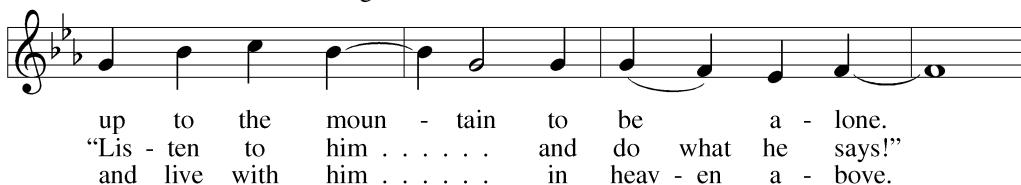
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

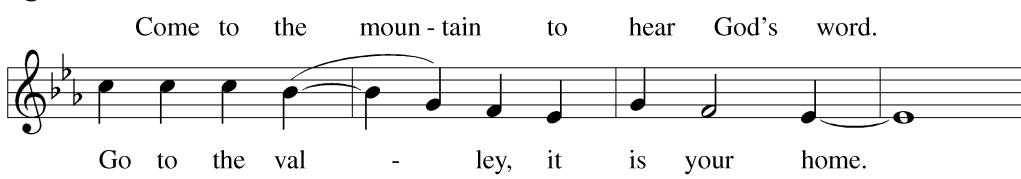
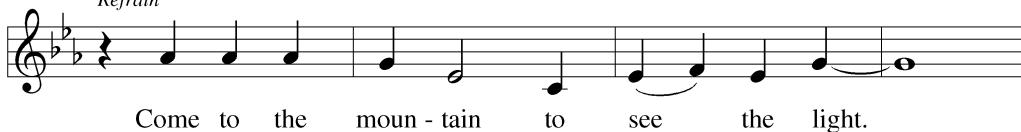
Children's Sermon

Sermon: Pastor Kristy Buyok

Hymn of the Day: “Come to the Mountain”



Refrain



Text: Scott Tunseth

Music: MOUNTAIN AND VALLEY, Kathleen Donlan Tunseth

Text and music © 1996 Scott Tunseth and Kathleen Donlan Tunseth, admin. Augsburg Fortress

The Apostle's Creed

A: Together, let us confess the belief that we share in this family of faith.

C: **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.**

(The words “catholic” and “apostolic” do not reference a particular denomination but mean: catholic = “one universal church” and apostolic = “the same faith that was handed down from Jesus to the Apostles”)

The Prayers

A: Let us pray: Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross.

Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the life you created, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lord God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to those who work to end abuse, and allow all, including refugees, to be treated with dignity. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way especially: Nancy, Steve, Ann, Barb, David, Dempsey, Lynne, Phoebe, Cassidy, Zach, Shannon, and Ken. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Allow us to rest in your glory and get back to work loving and healing your people. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lord God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ. Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

****Sharing of the Peace***

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Choir Anthem: “O Living God”

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Tune: SHENANDOAH Ken Bible

****Offertory Prayer***

P: Let us pray. Lord God,

**C: you are more magnificent than we can even imagine.
Meet us here at your table of mercy and allow us to see
glimpses of your eternal kingdom. Take what we have
shared today and use it to further your mission in this
place. Amen.**

***The Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth
and the hosts of heaven, we celebrate your name and join their
unending praise:

**C: Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed are you, our Savior and Lord!**

***Words of Institution**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed...

P: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**The Lord's Prayer*

**C: 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

**P: God is with us, here at the table of salvation.
Come receive the promises of our God.**

Holy Communion

*(All baptized Christians are welcomed at God's holy meal or you
may come forward for a blessing.)*

Communion Hymn:

“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 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!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

*Communion Hymn:**"I Love to Tell the Story"*

ELW 661



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo-ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911

Music: HANKEY, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

**Post Communion Blessing*

**Benediction*

**Sending Hymn:* “Step by Step”

**O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning,
and I will learn to walk in your ways,
and step by step you'll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.**

**O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning,
and I will learn to walk in your ways,
and step by step you'll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days,
and I will follow you all of my days,
and I will follow you all of my days,
and step by step you'll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.**

*Text: Beaker, Music: Beaker; arr. Nylea Butler-Moore,
Text and music © 1991 BMG Songs, Inc. and Kid Brother of St. Frank Publishing*

****Dismissal***

A: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. Be kind.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Your Prayers Are Requested For:

***Nancy, Steve, Ann, Barb, David, Dempsey, Lynne, Phoebe, Cassidy,
Zach, Shannon, and Ken***

Thank you to those serving this morning

Pastor: Rev. Kristy Buyok

Cantor: Lesley Mast

Assisting Minister: Adrienne Karlen

Reader: Lynn Moomaw

Pianist: Joe Hennell

Communion Assistant: Lynn Moomaw

Altar Care: Steve & Nancy Carr

Ushers/Greeters: Bruce Blough & Hans Kwee

Bread Baker: Nancy Carr



Worship Services are streamed each Sunday at:
www.stplcsmithville.org/services

If you are unable to access via the internet,
DVD copies are available for delivery to your home.
Please contact Pastor Kristy: (803) 673-1727.
stplcsmithville.org

This Week

Sunday:	Worship Sunday School	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.
Monday:	<i>Pastor's Day Off Office Closed</i>	
Tuesday:	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	Meal Choir Ash Wednesday Service	5:30 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Thursday:	Healthy Life Class	6:00 p.m.
Saturday:	Men's Day Event	10:00 a.m.
Next Sunday:	Worship Sunday School	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Upcoming & Announcements

Healthy Life Series: Our Healthy Life Series continues this Thursday, the 19th, at 6pm. Meet up for a 6-week series with Pastor Kristy and find out what she is doing to feel healthy. Open to all. No judgement or pressure. We are cooking this week.

People to People: Needed items: spaghetti sauce, kidney beans, cereal, instant oatmeal, and dry dog food. Thanks!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner & Games: Join us Tuesday the 17th at 6pm for pancakes and fun with your church family.



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return

February 18 -7 p.m.

Men of the Church: Save the date on Saturday, February 21 for a special Men's Event.



The image is a flyer for a Men's Day Event. At the top, there is a decorative starburst graphic. Below it, the text "MEN'S DAY EVENT" is displayed in a large, serif font. Underneath that, the tagline "When we're well ~ We love well." is written in a smaller, italicized serif font. To the right, there is a circular portrait of a smiling man with a beard, identified as "Noah Raines Speaker". Below the portrait, the text "Noah Raines Speaker" is written in a cursive font. In the center, an oval-shaped callout contains the text "Join us for a meal, fellowship, speaker, and service project". To the left, there is a photograph of a person in a plaid coat packing items into a large circular container. Overlaid on this image is the text "HELPING THE HOMELESS" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the flyer, there is a dark grey footer section containing event details: "February 21", "10am-Noon", and "Register by calling the church or signing up in person." The footer also includes the church's address: "St. Paul Lutheran Church ~ 777 S. Summit St., Smithville, OH 44677 ~ (330) 669-2111".

MEN'S DAY EVENT

When we're well ~ We love well.

Noah Raines Speaker

Packing gifts for the homeless

HELPING THE HOMELESS

Join us for a meal, fellowship, speaker, and service project

February 21
10am-Noon

Register by calling the church or
signing up in person.

St. Paul Lutheran Church ~ 777 S. Summit St., Smithville, OH 44677 ~ (330) 669-2111

Canned food: If you have extra that you can share, consider bringing canned food to place in the food box located in the church drive. If the food box is full you may place your food on the back table in the small fellowship hall. We will use this food to refill the box throughout the week. Thank you for your generosity.



Scan the QR code to view our website or to donate thru Paypal.

Wednesday Night Meals

February 18 – Kitchen Committee casserole, salad and dessert

February 25 – Spaghetti, garlic bread, salad and dessert

Serving in February In-Person	2/1	2/8	2/15	Ash Wednesday 2/18	2/22
Lay Reader	Aleena Mast	Lyn Miller	Lynn Moomaw	Lyn Miller	Tim Preston
Assisting Minister	Lynn Moomaw	Hans Kwee	Adrienne Karlen	Vicki Svegel	Pam Root
Greeters/ Ushers	Rex Raff Nancy Percy	Jerry & Kathy Meitzler	Bruce Blough Hans Kwee	Ernie Buyok Tim Preston	Steve & Nancy Carr
Communion Assistant	Tim Preston	Duane Eggeman	Lynn Moomaw	N/A	Lyn Miller
Altar Care	Larry & Sandy Miller	Rex & Beth Raff	Steve & Nancy Carr	N/A	Kathy Meitzler
Bread Baker	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr	Nancy Carr

Act of Kindness for the Week: Send a thank you card to someone who has positively impacted your life.

*Rev. Kristy Buyok, Pastor: 803-673-1727
kristybuyok@gmail.com
Website: www.stplcsmithville.org
Church Office: stpsmithville@gmail.com*