



Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 15, 2026

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

Reflection

Arr. Frank Asper
One License #207082

In Thee is Gladness

Arr. Dale Wood
One License #1030844

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of humans,
**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 ✝ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

HYMN

Shine Jesus Shine RED ELW #671

Refrain

**Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light**

Verse 1

**Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me (Refrain)**

Verse 2

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me (Refrain)**

Graham Kendrick
CCLI #30426

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the LORD" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 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: 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.

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE RISE FOR THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia RED ELW page 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

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 over-

shadowed 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.

⁹As 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.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

How Good, Lord, to Be Here! RED ELW #315
(Vs. 1, 3 & 5)

- 1 **How good, Lord, to be here!**
Your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.

- 3 **Fulfiller of the past**
and hope of things to be,
we hail your body glorified
and our redemption see.

- 5 **How good, Lord, to be here!**
Yet we may not remain;
but since you bid us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.
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QUILT DEDICATION

God, you call us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Send forth your Spirit today as we call upon you to bless our work and make it holy. Help these quilts, our offerings of hope, travel across distances near and far to reach our most weary neighbors and surround them with your grace and peace.

Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.

God, we give you thanks for the pieces of fabric, thread and sewing machines. May their presence be a sign of your faithful promise, may these quilts wrap our neighbors in unending love.

Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.

God, we give thanks for all those who have taken part in creating these quilts. May you guide us to greater empathy for our neighbors in crisis, for the mothers that struggle to feed their hungry children, for the fearful, the anxious, the isolated. May these quilts provide comfort and relief to those who are downtrodden around the world.

Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.

God, be with those who will receive these gifts—neighbors we have never met, neighbors who are near and far away, neighbors who, like us, long for your grace and mercy. May the work crafted from our humble hands serve as a beacon of light and hope to those who are desolate and hopeless and fill them with the peace that is only found in you.

Jesus, open our hearts to love our neighbors.

We thank you for this ministry of service, for the opportunity to comfort those in their darkest hours, to remind our neighbors in Christ of your loving presence. Bring us ever closer to your heart and our neighbors in need throughout the world. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the one who is our hope.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

THE PEACE

OFFERING

Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING

Improvisation on Lattimer

Arr. Charles Callahan

One License #64092

OFFERING HYMN

We Give Thee but Thine Own RED ELW #686

(Vs. 1)

**1 We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.
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OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of majesty,
**no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

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.**

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.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Emboldened by God's eternal and unconditional love for all people, let us go and do likewise, and share our blessings with neighbors near and far. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

In Thee Is Gladness RED ELW #867

- 1 In thee is gladness amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By thee are given the gifts of heaven,
thou the true redeemer art.
Our souls thou wakest; our bonds thou breakest.
Who trusts thee surely has built securely
and stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining to see thy shining,
dying or living, to thee are cleaving;
naught can us sever: Alleluia!**
- 2 Jesus is ours! We fear no powers,
not of earth or sin or death.
He sees and blesses in worst distresses;
he can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story tell of his glory
with heart and voices; all heav'n rejoices
in him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness, triumph o'er sadness,
love him and praise him and still shall raise him
glad hymns forever: Alleluia!**

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549-1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Go Now in Peace

Arr. D. Besig & N. Price
One License #206851

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Festival March

Arr. G.F. Handel
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Weekly Announcements

Please keep these family, friends and members in your prayers: Dilshad & Sonya Perani, Gary Revier and Deb Otto

Welcome Guests!

Please sign the visitor book in the entrance to the sanctuary.

We are glad you are here!

Hunger Jar for the month of February is designated to Sibley County FoodShare.

Souper Bowl Sunday—Thank you to everyone who participated. We were able to donate 16 cans and \$10 to the Sibley County FoodShare all in favor of the Seattle Seahawks winning.

Chicken Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 1 from 11am to 2pm. The sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Advanced tickets will be for sale after church today.

Quilting—Thank you to those involved with the quilts. A group picture of all quilters who worked on quilts this year will be taken after the worship service today. Also, anyone able to help remove the quilts are welcome following some fellowship time.

This years quilt count: 87 quilts, 8 lap quilts and 10 small/youth quilts. This years quilters are: Betty Rud, Roseann Nagel, Joyce Bening, Jackie Alsleben, Jan Gieseke, Barb Bergs, Lorraine Mielke, Birdine Battcher, Starla Schilling, Jan Wark, Norma Michaelis, Brenda Danielson, Deb Stenzel, Wendy Kube, Mary Albrecht, Ann Werner and May Seeman.

Easter Garden flower forms are due into the secretary's office by Sunday, March 8.

Chicken Dinner Desserts and Bake Sale—Zion’s Chicken Dinner is Sunday, March 1. There are two ways to help out for the Chicken dinner. Our diners will need some delicious desserts. If they are refrigerator desserts, bring them on Sunday morning. Sign up on the bulletin board by the door.

We will be holding a bake sale in conjunction with the chicken dinner. Bring your cakes, cookies, breads, eggs or jam to the church appropriately packaged for the bake sale. Please have them upstairs at the church no later than 4 pm on Saturday. Proceeds from the bake sale will go toward the parking lot project.

Lion’s Fish Fry Dessert Table—We are again providing desserts to be sold at the Lion’s Fish Fry. The fish fry is on Friday, March 6. We are selling our desserts for the early part of the day. Desserts need to be at the community center by 10 am. There will be some representatives from our church there to cut, package, price, and sell our goodies. Cakes, pies, refrigerator desserts, and crisps would be great. Last year, we earned over \$200 for the parking lot from this project. Again, the money will go to the parking lot. Please help us out with these projects.

Pastor Gretchen Pierskalla

952-237-1060

pastor@zionarlington.org

Hours for the week of February 15

Tuesday, February 17—11a-12p & 2:30p-4p

Wednesday, February 18—2:30p-5p

Thursday, February 19—11a-3p

by appointment

Stacy’s Office Hours

Monday—Thursday, 2:30p-5:00p

Worship Assistants

February 15

Usher: Stephanie Krueger, Murdock Krueger
 Jim & Wendy Pederson
 Greeter: Hannah Bartlette
 Acolyte: Jeremiah Vazquez
 Reader: Laurie Stern
 Paraments: Nancy Mathwig

February 18—Ash Wednesday

Usher: Scott Bergs & Peg Kamps
 Greeter: Peg Kamps & Adilyn Kamps
 Acolyte: Adilyn Kamps
 Reader: Hannah Bartlette
 Altar Guild: Stacy Haggenmiller,
 Roseann Nagel
 Bread Maker: Carrie Bartlette
 Paraments: Cassidy Battcher

February 22

Usher: Jerry & Diane Ebersviller
 Tim & Stacy Haggenmiller
 Greeter: Alex & Cassidy Battcher
 Acolyte: Jazmyne Wark
 Reader: Starla Schilling

Date	Weekly Operating Offerings	Weekly Operating Goal	YTD Given	YTD Budget	Debt Retirement	ELCA Missions	Parking Lot
YTD Balance			\$17,548.03	\$20,191.25			
2/8/2026	\$2,296.00	\$4,038.31	\$19,844.03	\$24,229.56	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$115.00

Zion Lutheran Church
 814 West Brooks St. P.O. Box 371
 Arlington, MN 55307
 Church: 507-964-5454
 Email: zion.elca.814@gmail.com
 Web: zionarlington.org // YouTube: Zion ELCA Arlington MN



Zion Lutheran Church ELCA

This Week at Zion:

Sunday, February 15	9:00a 10:00a 1:30p	Worship Sunday School MN Valley Conference Mtg / St. Paul, Gaylord
Monday, February 16		March Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, February 17	12:00p	Pastor MN Valley Conference Meeting
Wednesday, February 18	6:30p	Ash Wednesday Worship w/Holy Communion
Thursday, February 19	10:00a 11:00a	Adult Bible Study Prayer Shawl
Saturday, February 21	8:00a	Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday, February 22	9:00a 10:00a	Contemporary Worship Sunday School

LSS Meals on Wheels Monday—Friday 9:00a—12:00p