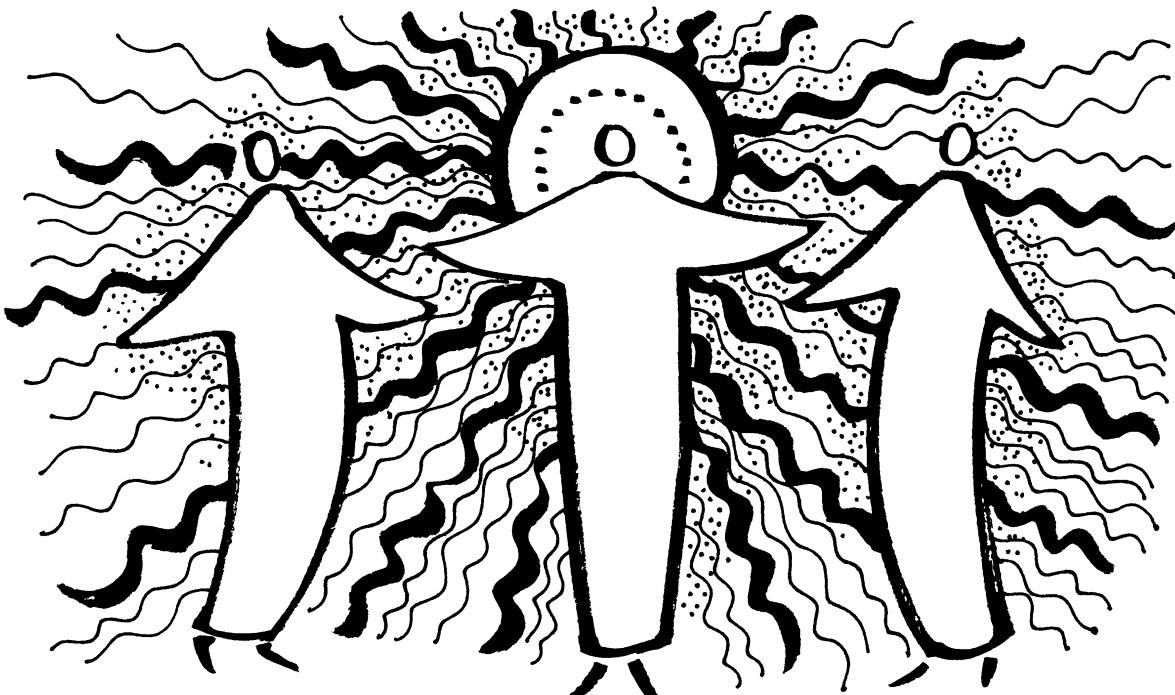


**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**4856 WAYNE ROAD**  
**CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202**  
**(717) 267-2266**

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FACEBOOK SEARCH: Solomon's Lutheran Facebook



*until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts*

II PETER 1:19

*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

**TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD/LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**  
**FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

**February 15, 2026**  
**Transfiguration of Our Lord / Last Sunday after Epiphany**

*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.*

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**    *Beautiful Savior* - Dale Wood

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**\*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.

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**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.**

## \*GATHERING SONG *Shine, Jesus, Shine* (ELW 671)

*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, in the midst of the

2 As we gaze on your king-ly bright-ness, so our fac-es dis-

dark-ness, shin-ing; Je-sus, light of the world, shine up-on us, play your like-ness, 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.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950  
 Music: Graham Kendrick  
 Text and music © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE  
 99 10 10 33 and refrain

## \*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.**

## \*CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Father Most Holy* (ELW 415)



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our

4 Lord God Al - might-y, un - to thee be glo - ry, one in three

Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,

per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,

ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, light nev - er wan - ing.

praise thee and a - dore thee, now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin hymn, 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.

Music: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, Paris Antiphoner, 1681

Text from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM**      *Beautiful Savior* - Robert G. Farrell

## FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18

A reading from Exodus.

*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.*

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

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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 2**

**(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)**

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations <sup>1</sup> in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter <sup>1</sup> empty threats?

**<sup>2</sup> Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes <sup>1</sup> plot together, against the LORD and against the <sup>1</sup> LORD’s anointed?**

<sup>3</sup> “Let us break their <sup>1</sup> yoke,” they say;

“let us cast off their <sup>1</sup> bonds from us.”

**<sup>4</sup> God whose throne is in heav- <sup>1</sup> en is laughing; the LORD holds them <sup>1</sup> in derision.**

<sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God <sup>1</sup> speaks to them,

and in rage fills <sup>1</sup> them with terror.

**<sup>6</sup> “As for me, I have anoint- <sup>1</sup> ed my king upon Zion, my <sup>1</sup> holy mountain.”**

<sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,

who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I be- <sup>1</sup> gotten you.

**<sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for <sup>1</sup> your inheritance and the ends of the earth for <sup>1</sup> your possession.**

<sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an <sup>1</sup> iron rod

and shatter them like a <sup>1</sup> piece of pottery.”

**<sup>10</sup> And now, you <sup>1</sup> kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers <sup>1</sup> of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup> Submit to the <sup>1</sup> LORD with fear,

and with trembling <sup>1</sup> bow in worship;

**<sup>12</sup> lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden <sup>1</sup> blaze of wrath. Happy are all who take ref- <sup>1</sup> uge in God!**

## SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21

A reading from 2 Peter.

*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.*

<sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>18</sup> We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> 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.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW S 205A)



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

### \*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.*

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup> 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.” <sup>5</sup> 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!” <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Rev. Julia Brown

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY *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 - demp - 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

**Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' CREED.**

**\*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 THE CHURCH (Please respond.)**

**P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## \*OFFERTORY (VS 1 & 3) *For the Fruit of All Creation* (ELW 679)



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.

3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.

For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing.

For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con-found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, thanks be to God.

most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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## \*OFFERING PRAYER

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

## \*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.**

## \*PREFACE

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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;  
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;  
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

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

## \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **\*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.**

## **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!  
Come to the table; taste and see.

## **COMMUNION**

*Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.*

## COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## 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 bloom - ing Son of Man!  
 Son of God and Son of stars on high;  
 Son of Man!  
 Tru - ly I'd love thee, Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus shines bright - er, Glo - ry and hon - or, Tru - ly I'd serve thee, Je - sus is pur - er, Je - sus shines pur - er praise, ad - o - ra - tion,  
 light of my soul, he makes our sor - - rowing spir - it my joy, than all the an - - gels in the sky. now and for - ev - er - more be crown. sing. sky. thine!

## **\*COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

## **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Radiant God,  
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In the sacrament of his body and blood  
you have drawn us to your heart.  
Send us from this table with delight,  
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **\*BLESSING**

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
☩ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## \*SENDING SONG *Alleluia, Song of Gladness* (ELW 318)



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;  
2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;  
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;  
4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless-ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;  
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth-er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;  
al - le - lu - ia our trans-gres-sions make us for a while for - go;  
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith-ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn-ing ex - iles still are we.  
for the sol - emn time is com-ing when our tears for sin shall flow.  
there to you for - ev - er sing-ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God.**

## EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

## PLEASE BE SEATED FOR THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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## SERVING TODAY

Interim Pastor .....	Rev. Julia Brown
Church Office Email Address .....	<a href="mailto:office@solomonslutheran.org">office@solomonslutheran.org</a>
Organist .....	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher .....	Larry Socks
Acolyte .....	Aaron Shreiner
Lector .....	Wayne Dale
Securing Offering .....	Marjorie Dale & Bonney Coldsmith
Communion Set-Up .....	Marjorie Dale
Communion Clean-Up .....	Marjorie Dale
Communion Bread .....	Marjorie Dale
Communion Assist .....	Marjorie Dale
Attendance Last Sunday .....	30

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The altar flowers** this morning are placed to the glory of God in honor of the births of our great-grandchildren Scarlet Faye and Roman Clark given by Wayne and Marjorie Dale.

**Welcome Visitors!** We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

**Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Julia Brown** by email [jlouisebrown@msn.com](mailto:jlouisebrown@msn.com) or phone 703-434-9220.

**Prayer requests for the following:** *Clif Rau, Dennis Hose, Sam Brooks, Ellie Martin, Teahana, Carol Locke, Carole Rau, Peggy Weller, Patricia Yetter, Kaitlyn Dovey, Norm Kuykendall, Phil Johnson, Nancy Deardorff, Susie Bingaman, Patsy Wildeson, Glenn Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Brandan DeShong, Charles Carl, Marty Wenger, Nancy Marshall, Betty Amt, our world & country, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Chuck Bedsworth, Linda Mumaugh, Katy Klutz, Becky Ensinger, and all the Homebound. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

**Please Be Aware:** *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

## **Weekly Calendar Reminders:**

February 15 - Congregation Meeting following service  
17 - Property 1pm  
18 - Ash Wednesday Service 7pm  
19 - Choir 7pm

**Congregation Meeting is today immediately following our worship service.** We will be reviewing our Annual Report for your approval. Please stay and be a part of our faith community as we continue to grow in God's grace.

**If you would like to order Easter flowers in remembrance or honor of a loved one,** there is a form attached to the bulletin (last page). Orders are due by March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Special congregation meeting, March 15, 2026, following worship service.** The purpose of this meeting is to approve a continuing resolution to our constitution on our view of homosexuality. This Continuing Resolution was proposed by several members and approved by council.

**Bible Study on John's Revelation.** Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the fellowship center conference room.

**Inclement Weather Cancellation Notification.** In the event of inclement weather, Solomon's will announce that our worship services are cancelled by sending an email to the entire membership who have email addresses. Also, the phone message on the office phone at the church (717-267-2266) will state when services are cancelled. **This will be done by 7:30AM Sunday morning.** If you receive an email notifying you of a cancellation and if you know a friend who does not have email, please contact them. **If the church office does not have your current email address, please let Kimberly in the church office know this as soon as possible, so it can be updated!** Above all, safety is our most important concern, so please do not take any unnecessary chances.

**Communion will be served on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month in addition to all church holidays.**

## **ASH WEDNESDAY**

**Solomon's Lutheran's service will be at 7:00 PM with a 6:00 soup and bread meal.** Service will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Ash Wednesday begins Lent. The ashes are made from the palms we wave on Palm Sunday. Wearing the ashes reminds us of our mortality and focuses our hearts on our need for repentance. Solomon's UCC's Ash Wednesday service will be at 5:30 PM on February 18.

You are invited to attend worship on Ash Wednesday, February 18 with First Lutheran at 43 W Washington St in Chambersburg. At 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. we will have a 10-15 minute prayer service with the imposition of ashes. This will be held in our chapel on the first floor. At 7:00 p.m. we will have Holy Communion, music, and sermon along with the imposition of ashes. The 7:00 service is held in the sanctuary on the second floor. An elevator is available. May your Ash Wednesday worship experience draw you closer to Christ as we begin the Lenten season. Pastor Jane Nicholson

**The first mid-week Lenten service will be held on Wednesday, February 25 at Corpus Christi Roman Catholic** beginning with supper at 5:30, followed by worship beginning at 7:00pm. The offering during this Lenten season will be given to Hearken House Ministry. Hearken House Ministry provides a work/training program for those being released on parole from a Pennsylvania state or county jail and who strongly desire to change the way of life they have chosen in the past. Checks to support Hearken House may be made **payable to LARC**.

**The 2026 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room.** The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

**Power Pack Meals:** We are once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2025-2026 school year. Please place the items you donate in the tote in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put Power Pack Meals in the memo of your check.

**If you are not taking your altar flowers home,** please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

**The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room.** Please sign up for as many as you can.

#### **Music Notes/Hymn Notes:**

Few Christian songs composed in recent years have had such an immediate impact on congregational singing as Graham Kendrick's "Shine, Jesus, Shine," our gathering song this morning. Graham Kendrick (1950-2025) was a native of Blisworth, Northamptonshire, England. The son of a Baptist pastor, he began writing songs in the early 1970s and today is considered to have been one of the most prolific British Christian singer-songwriters and worship leaders. "Shine, Jesus, Shine" has been a song of hope at many noteworthy events and large gatherings. At an open-air mass in 1995 in Manila, Pope John Paul II is said to have "swung his cane in time to the music!" Originally written with just three verses and no refrain, Mr. Kendrick added a refrain when asked to submit new music for a conference song book. The line "Shine, Jesus, Shine" came to mind and after some polishing, he added the

refrain to the original hymn, with no idea the hymn would become so widely used. Stanza one focuses on the light “shining in the midst of darkness. Stanza two reflects on coming into the “awesome presence of Christ.” (Interesting note: stanza two was not included in our current hymnal, ELW). The final stanza (our second stanza) focuses on how Christ’s brightness may and should be reflected in our individual lives, as our faces display his likeness. “Shine, Jesus, Shine” was voted tenth in a 2005 survey of the United Kingdom’s favorite hymns by the BBC’s *Songs of Praise* program. ([umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org)).

*Schonster, Herr Jesu*, known to us as *Beautiful Savior*, our communion hymn this morning, dates back to the Roman Catholic Jesuits in a hymnal dated 1677, although it was also found in a manuscript dated 1662. The actual translator remains a mystery, The hymn emphasizes “the beauty and wonder of Christ, and it alludes to His dual nature, that He was both human and divine, God made flesh, “*Son of God and Son of Man.*” ([Then Sings My Soul](#), p.25). It is interesting to note that according to some accounts, this hymn was called “Crusader’s Hymn” because it was sung by German Crusaders as they made their way to the Holy Land. But William Jensen Reynolds dismisses as “completely erroneous” any association of this hymn with the Crusades. Regardless of its exact origins, the hymn is truly a beautiful one, and a favorite of many. (Wikipedia). You will hear the hymn in three different forms this morning during worship: first as the organ prelude which uses the original tune, next as the choir anthem with a totally new tune, and finally, as our communion hymn.

In most Lutheran parishes we bid “farewell” to alleluia on this, Transfiguration Sunday, the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday. Alleluia has been a word of great praise to God in the life of the early church and was prominent in early Christian liturgies. Because of the penitential character of the season of Lent in the Western church, singing or saying “alleluia” has historically been suspended during the forty days of Lent. The joyful nature of the “alleluia” is reserved for our Easter celebrations. Today, in keeping with this practice, we sing our “farewell” to Alleluia in our sending hymn, “Alleluia, Song of Gladness.” Join with us and raise your voices in praise of God as we end our service this morning! (Historic Lectionary; ELCA).

# EASTER FLOWERS - 2026

Anyone desiring to remember a loved one or honor someone with Easter Flowers is asked to fill out the following form and return it to the church office or put it in the collection plate along with cash or a check made payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church, marked "Easter Flowers." Flowers will be in the church on Sunday, April 5, 2026, and can be taken home that day, or call the office 717 267-2266 to make other arrangements.

**The deadline to order Easter Flowers is March 8!**

*The Easter Flowers in  
Memory and Honor of Family and Friends  
has been donated by:*

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(name)

**Daffodils** (6"pot) ..... \$10.00  
Yellow \_\_\_\_\_



**Tulips** (6 bulbs) ..... \$10.00  
Red \_\_\_\_\_ Yellow \_\_\_\_\_ Purple \_\_\_\_\_

**Lilies** ..... \$10.00 White \_\_\_\_\_



Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Total plants ordered \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_