Immanuel Lutheran Church

LIGHT OF CHRIST CHINESE LUTHERAN MISSION

9733 Olive Boulevard - Olivette, MO 63132 - (314) 993-2394

8:00 SUNDAY MORNING – COPY FOR AT-HOME WORSHIP



Pastor: Rory C. Karg

Vicars: Joshua Horst & Nan Tian

Deaconesses: Kan Hsu & Helen Zhang

Visit our Website or our Facebook Page for More Information

www.immanuelolivette.org

Worship Notes The Transfiguration of Our Lord – March 2, 2025

We welcome our members and guests who are worshiping with us today, and pray God's rich blessings upon you during this time of worship!

THEME

The prospect of standing before God face to face has always been a fearful one in the history of God's people. God's glory, while radiant, offers little to console the sinner — that is, until Jesus makes it possible for sinners to stand before the holy God. Like Peter, James, and John, we have been invited by our Lord to stand in the presence of the holy God, whose grace and mercy forgive our sins, restore our place, and render us holy in His sight. Like the disciples, we may wish to stay, but the Lord bids us go and share this vision of hope and redemption to a waiting world below.

ORDER

This weekend we follow a special Service of Praise. Through readings, hymns, anthems, and responses our worship points to the great mystery of the faith as we see our Lord, both true God and true man, transfigured. Our hymn of praise is a hymn traditionally used on the Transfiguration of Our Lord, *Beautiful Savior*, also known as *Fairest Lord Jesus*.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Majestic" is a word that can be easily applied to *O, Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair*. The Feast of the Transfiguration became common in England in the 15th century, and this anonymous Latin hymn first appeared in 1495. The translation was done by John Mason Neale, an evangelical English clergyman, author and poet. (22 of the hymns in the Lutheran Service Book have translations by Neale!) The tune, DEO GRACIAS, is from a hymn which was composed to celebrate the English victory over the French at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415.

What our Church Believes, Teaches and and Confesses regarding The Lord's Supper

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Those who are not members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed at Immanuel previously are asked to speak with a pastor prior to the service. Those who are of a different confession (i.e., church body)⁴ or are unsure about communing, are invited to come forward during distribution with their hands folded in prayer, or held close to the chest and receive a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³¹ Corinthians 11:28-32

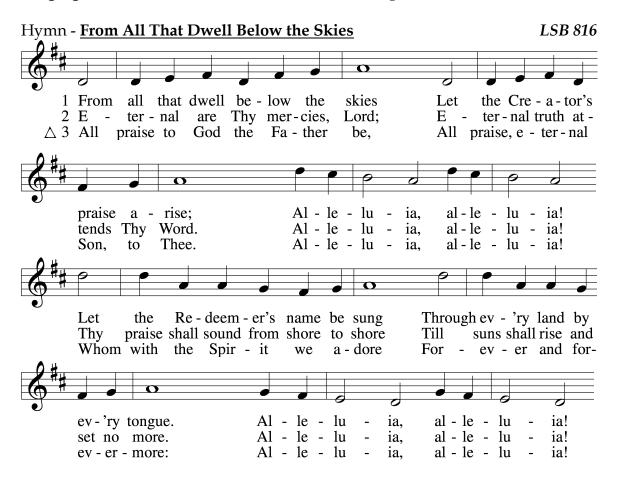
⁴¹Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

A Service of Praise

Preservice Music

Ringing of the Church Bells & Welcome to Worship





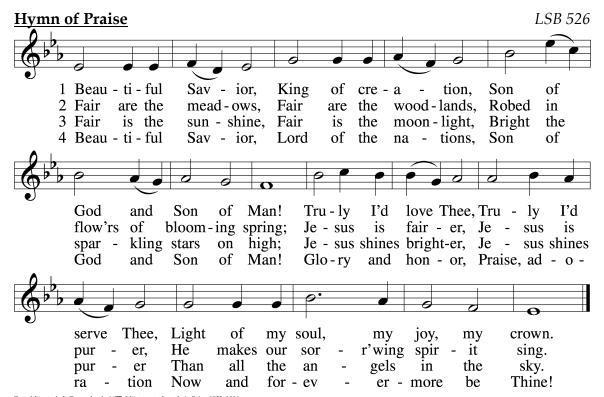
Text (sts. 1–2): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823–97 Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln Text and tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation, Confession of Sins, and Absolution

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **G** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day for Transfiguration

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1–12

Moses' death on Moab.

¹Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. ⁴And the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there." ⁵So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, ⁶and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. ⁵Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. §And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

⁹And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. ¹⁰And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, ¹¹none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, ¹²and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Hebrews 3:1-6

Christ is faithful as a son over God's house.

¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses — as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Anthem - God Made Manifest (Christopher Wordsworth, arr. Sheldon Curry)

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to You we raise; Manifested by the star to the sages from afar; Branch of royal David's stem in Your birth at Bethlehem; Songs of praise to You addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme; And at Cana, wedding guest, in Your Godhead manifest; Manifest in pow'r divine, changing water into wine; Songs of praise to You addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest in making whole weakened limbs and fainting soul; Manifest in valiant fight, laying waste to evil's might; Manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill; Songs of praise to You addressed, God in flesh made manifest.

Manifest on sacred height, dazzling face, O wondrous sight! Moses and Elijah share with the Son of Glory there. Cloud and voice and mystery point the way toward Calvary. Love and mercy conquer death; God in flesh made manifest.

Stand

Holy Gospel Luke 9:28–36

■ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus is transfigured on the mountaintop.

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings [Jesus] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah" — not knowing what he said. ³⁴As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" ³⁶And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

- **L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

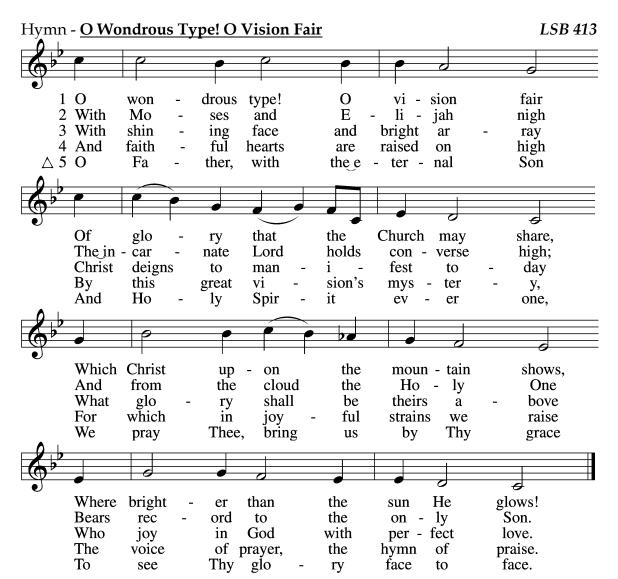
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit





Text: Sarum Breviary, 1495, Salisbury; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: English, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Prayers

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

- **L** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

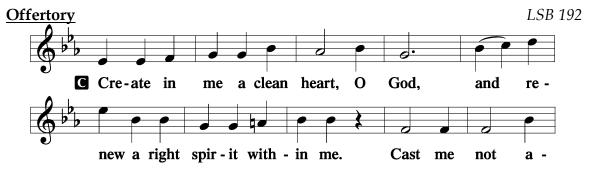
Our prayers conclude:

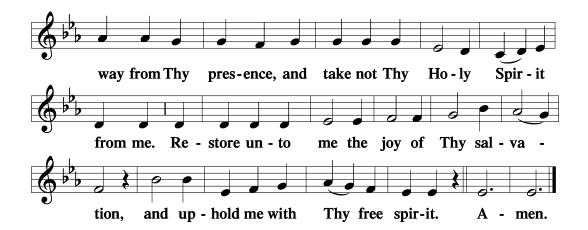
Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember on this day the glorious manifestation of Your Son's divinity on the Mount of Transfiguration. Teach us to listen to Jesus and ever fix our eyes on Him and His innocent suffering and death for our forgiveness. By Your grace and mercy, strengthen us to remain faithful in all circumstances of trial, temptation and persecution. Preserve us to the end, that we may die a blessed death believing in Your beloved Son with whom You are well pleased; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

The Offering is Gathered



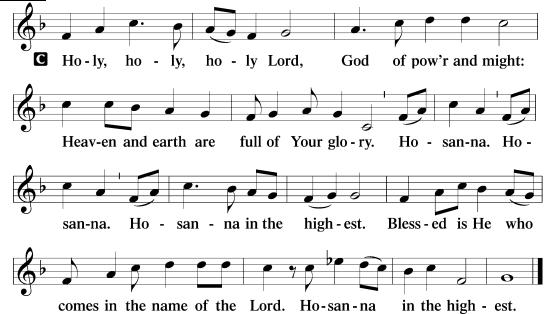


Stand

Preface LSB 160

- **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 Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 161



Lord's Prayer

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

The Words of Our Lord

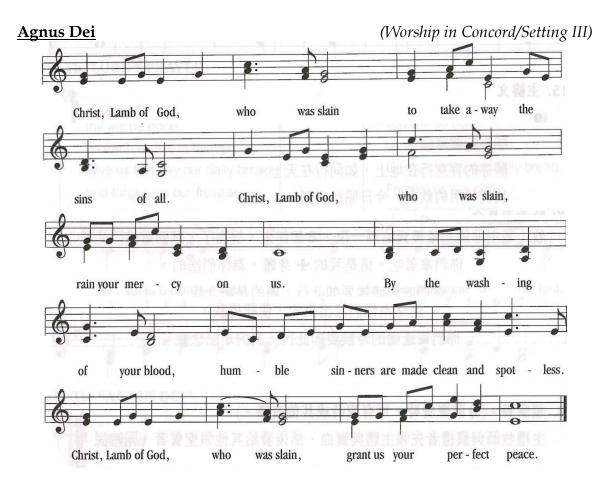
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

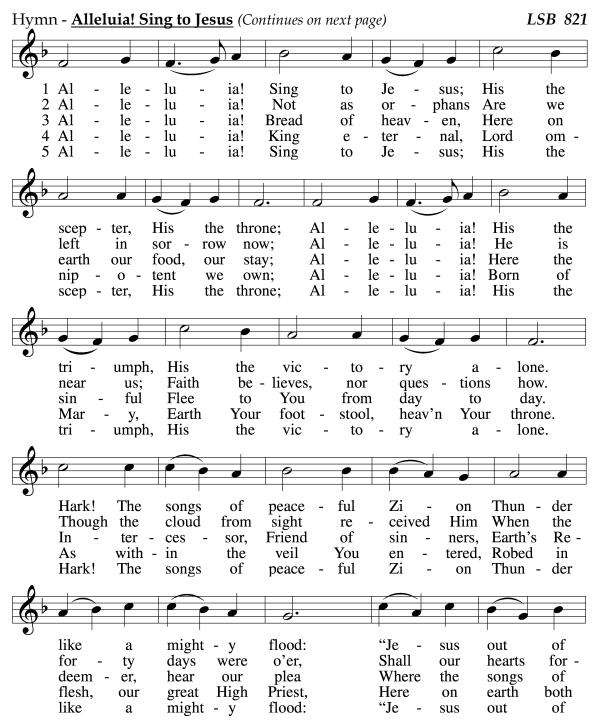
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

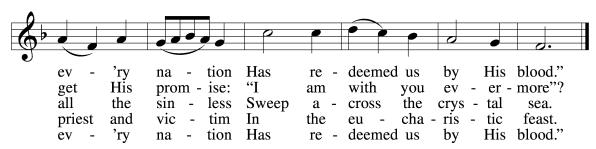
C Amen.



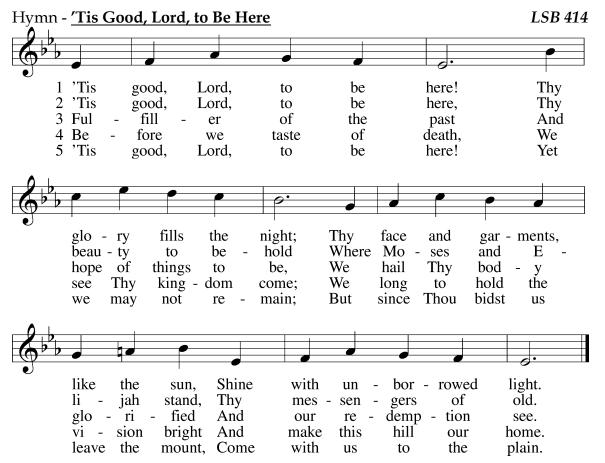
Sit

Reception of the Lord's Supper





Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87 Text and tune: Public domain



Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt. Tune: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Post-Communion Prayer

- **L** Let us pray together:
- We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

- **L** The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and

 → give us peace.
- C Amen.

Sit

Farewell to Alleluias

P Shortly after His transfiguration, our Lord Jesus set His face to go to Jerusalem, where He would spend the last days of His life prior to His crucifixion. This day marks the end of the Epiphany season for us, and on Wednesday we begin the season of Lent. The season of Lent is a time of reflection, meditation, repentance, and prayer.

Alleluia is a word that the Church for centuries has "given up" for Lent until the celebration of our Lord's resurrection on Easter.

As the final stanza of the hymn is sung, the "Alleluia" banner is carried from the church, and "Alleluia" will not be sung again until we celebration the resurrection on Easter.



Text: Latin, c. 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: John Goss, 1800-80 Text and tune: Public domain

Silent Prayer, Announcements, & Post-Service Music

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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All Immanuel members and our guests are asked to complete one of the worship attendance cards found in the pew racks. Please give your card to an usher as you leave worship. Guests are also asked to sign the guest book in the outer narthex. Thank you!

You may prepare for Ash Wednesday by reading:

Joel 2:12-19

"Return to the Lord, your God."

Psalm 51:1-19

"Have mercy on me."

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

"Be reconciled."

John 1:29-24

"Behold the Lamb of God."

You may prepare for next weekend (1st Sunday in Lent) by reading:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The Lord heard our voice and brought us out.

Psalm 91:1-13

He shall give His angels charge over you.

Romans 10:8b-13

Confess with your mouth; believe in your heart.

Luke 4:1-13

Jesus is tempted by Satan.

Serving This Morning:

Presiding Minister & Preacher: Pastor Rory Karg
Liturgist: Vicar Joshua Horst

Lector: Seminarian Steven Steingraber

Organist: Lori Steingraber

Choir: Light of Christ/Immanuel Combined Choir

Acolytes: Ryan Hundelt & Emma Weinstein

Ushers: Team C

Chancel Flowers

The flowers in the chancel this weekend are given to the praise and glory of God!

Midweek Lenten Series:

Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion

John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: "Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30–31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

Historically, the Fourth Gospel is likened to an eagle—an image that suggests John soars to heights of glory and grandeur. That's because the evangelist paints a stunning portrait of Jesus, who is the bread of life, the resurrection and the life, and the way, the truth, and the life. Life in Jesus. That's God's gift to you!

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John's Gospel who journeyed to the cross.