

# Lord of Life Lutheran Church

*Vision Statement: to love God and His creation as a Christ-centered/family-oriented ministry*

Website: [lord-life.org](http://lord-life.org)/Facebook: [Facebook.com/LordofLifeAlpharetta](https://www.facebook.com/LordofLifeAlpharetta)



## **Sunday, February 23** **Transfiguration/First Communion** **Reminders & Announcements**



Adult Bible Hour 9:00 am

WORSHIP – 10:30 am

*Children's Education during Worship Service*

### **UPCOMING & ONGOING EVENTS**

Blessings to the following youth as they *celebrate their First Communion* this Sunday.



*Tyler Joseph Bible  
Brooklyn Kates Dibert  
Fiona Lillian Heinle  
Sophie Elizabeth Heinle  
Lucas Gregory Lowery  
Samuel Christopher Menardi  
Ella Jewell Wason*

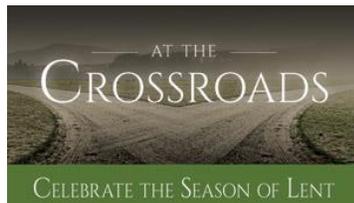
#### **Spaghetti Dinner/cookoff benefitting Grace House–**

Will be this Sunday at noon, following Service. Please plan to join us in good food and fellowship and help support Grace House.



**Peace by Piece Quilting Group** will have their monthly working session on Thursday, February 27.

**Bible Study Groups** meet on Wednesdays with Ladies at 6:45 pm and Men at 7:00 pm.



#### **Ash Wednesday and Lent**

Ash Wednesday is Feb 26. Please join us for services at 1:00 & 7:00 pm. Our theme for this year's Lenten Services and Holy Week is "At the Crossroads of the Resurrection". Many of those involved in the story of the Passion of Christ came to a crossroads and had to decide which way to go. Some chose well, some did not, and the stories of each of

these experiences at various crossroads help us to know what to do and what not to do when we encounter similar crossroads in our own lives. In the end, each service in the series reveals in some way how Christ and his cross lead us to decide the path of God's will for us. Please plan to join us for one of our weekly Lenten Services on Wednesdays March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1 at 1:00 and 7:00 pm.

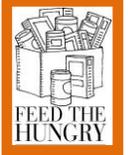
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## WAYS TO HELP THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY:

**WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT** - Don't forget, we continue to collect food items for those in need. Donations are taken to The Place in Cumming and North Fulton Community Charities. Bring something special this week as part of your offering. *Thank you for sharing from the heart!!!*



### **LENTEN SELF DENIAL 2020 - 40 days – 40 Items Food Drive**

This year during the 40 days of Lent the challenge is to help fight hunger one day at a time. Beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing through Sat., April 11 (skipping Sundays as they are not included in the 40 days of Lent), place one non-perishable food or toiletry item into a box each day. You can bring the items in weekly or all at once on Palm Sunday, April 5. Some suggested items are peanut butter, canned chicken, canned tuna, canned fruit or vegetables, macaroni & cheese boxes, soap, shampoo, etc. All items will be donated to NFCC, The Place and/or Rainbow House.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### **Sunday, Feb 23– Transfiguration/First Communion**

9:00 am Adult Bible Hour

10:15 am meditation time

#### **10:30 am Worship**

*Children's Education during the Worship Service*

**Noon – Spaghetti Dinner benefitting Grace House**

**Mon, Feb 24** 6:00 pm Men's Support Group

7:30 pm Choir Practice

**Wed, Feb 26** 1:00 & 7:00 pm **Ash Wednesday Service**

**Thurs, Feb 27** 9:30 am Peace by Piece Quilting Group

### **Sunday March 1– First Sunday in Lent**

9:00 am Adult Bible Hour

10:15 am meditation time

#### **10:30 am Worship**

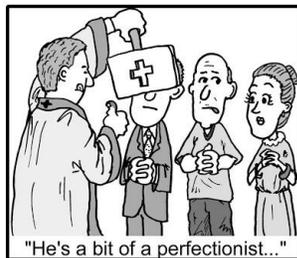
*Children's Education during the Worship Service*

**Mon, Mar 2** 6:00 pm Men's Support Group

7:30 pm Choir Practice

**Wed, Mar 4** 1:00 & 7:00 pm **Lenten Service**

**Fri, Mar 6** 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Bible Study



[www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com](http://www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com)

### **LOST & FOUND**



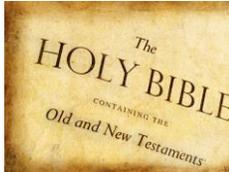
A dental retainer was found in the hallway. It is in the lost and found cubby in the office.

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*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.*



## **The Lessons for Sunday, February 23 – Transfiguration**

First Lesson: Exodus 24:12-18

Second Lesson: 2Peter 1:16-21

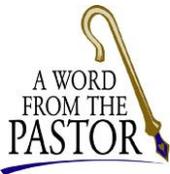
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 17:1-9

## **The Lessons for Sunday, March 1 – First Sunday in Lent**

First Lesson: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-19

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:1-11



## **Finding God in the Clouds**

We often speak of mountaintop experiences as those joyous times we look forward to with excitement and look back upon fondly, such as summer camp or an annual hiking trip. The mountaintop moments in Sunday's readings were different: awe-inspiring, yes, but also full of devouring fires, clouds, and fear. Vision is obscured, the familiar becomes unknown, and nothing is the same. People get lost in fires, clouds, and fear, unable to find their way, but God's presence is where we get both lost *and* found. Many biblical encounters with God involved fear, pointing to the awesome reality of God that is much more than the gentle shepherd we often imagine (though God is that, too). God is, as C. S. Lewis famously said, "not a tame lion" (*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, London: HarperCollins Children's Books, 2001, p. 197). The truth is, we can no more plan our mountaintop times with God than we can stay there forever, as much as we think we would like to. God's place is to invite, ours to respond, faces bowed to the ground.

Eventually, of course, the time comes to leave that mountain, walking with Jesus down to the valley and getting dusty with the ashes of daily life. We will symbolically "roll up the Alleluias" today, recognizing that this is the end of a glorious season celebrating Christ's light and the entrance to a no-less-real season of Jesus' and our own lives, the "valley" season of Lent. But that doesn't mean there is nothing to do down in the valley. On the contrary, the traditional disciplines of Lent—fasting, prayer, and gifts to the poor—all help us maintain the eyes, ears, and heart to see and hear God whenever and however God appears.

**Join us for mountain-top experience in worship this Sunday.**

**Don't forget Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday services on Feb. 26 at 1 & 7.**

