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Johnstown, PA 15905
(814) 255-1395



Moxham Lutheran Church
500 Park Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15902
(814) 539-8664

+ Transfiguration of Our Lord +

Living Waters Lutheran Parish

Moxham Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran Church - Host

10:00 a.m.

February 15, 2026

Today's festival works as a liturgical bridge between the seasons of Epiphany and Lent. High on a mountain, Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words Jesus heard at his baptism: "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased." For the disciples with Jesus, this time a command is added, "Listen to him!"

Today, we move from the mountain where Jesus offered the sermon, which we call the "Sermon on the Mount," that we've been listening to these past several weeks, to a higher mountain where Jesus is transfigured and on which several of his disciples get a glimpse of Jesus' true glory. Next Sunday, the First Sunday in Lent, we find ourselves down the mountain with Jesus, as he is tempted in the desert.

The omission of singing or saying "alleluia" during Lent goes back at least to the fifth century. The association of alleluia with Easter led to the custom of intentionally omitting alleluias from the liturgy during the season of Lent, a kind of verbal fast which has the effect of creating a sense of anticipation and even greater joy when the familiar word of praise returns. To mark our entry into the Lenten liturgical season, during the singing of the closing hymn, the children will collect the "Alleluia Flags", we have been waving, during the last verse of the Sending Hymn.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude Organ and Piano Selections, including: Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)

Panis Angelicus (Franck)

Welcome

Call to Worship

from Exodus 24, Matthew 17

We turn and face the Cross for the Procession

As God called to Moses from the mountain,

we are called to be God's people.

As Jesus called the disciples to climb with him to the peak of another mountain,

we are called to follow wherever he leads.

As the disciples stood in awe at the sound of God's voice,

we are called to worship in wonder and praise.

Holy One, Light of light, God of all creation,
shine in us, around us, and through us,
that the world may see your glory in the faces of your people —
faces transfigured in the light of your love. Amen and Alleluia!

Gathering Song: “Beautiful Savior”

No. 838

- 1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**
- 2 Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**
- 3 Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.**

Greeting

Arise, shine; for your light has come!
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Also with you.

Dialog for Transfiguration: (From various Psalms)

The Lord, the God of gods has spoken;
The Lord's hand cradles the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
**From Mount Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines in glorious radiance. Alleluia!**
The Lord is king; the Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim in the Holy of Holies.
**The Lord looms majestically in Zion;
the Lord is exalted above all peoples. Alleluia!**

Let me proclaim the Lord's decree:
"I myself have set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.
You are my son; this day have I begotten you."

Let the people praise the Lord's name, which is great and awesome.
Proclaim the Lord's greatness and fall prostrate before God's footstool.
Alleluia!

Hymn of Praise

4 **Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!**

Prayer for the Day

Lord God, in the transfiguration of your Son, you confirmed for us the mysteries of the faith by the presence of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud, you declared Jesus to be your beloved Son, and in this way, you foreshadowed for us our adoption as your children. Help us to live as if we had been with Jesus on the mountaintop, through your Son, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you in glory, one God now and forever.

Amen.

Word

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

Children's Time

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 2



¹ Why are the nations ¹ in an uproar?

 Why do the peoples mutter ¹ empty threats?

² **Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes ¹ plot together,
 against the Lord and against the ¹ Lord's anointed?**

³ “Let us break their ¹ yoke,” they say;

 “let us cast off their ¹ bonds from us.”

⁴ **God whose throne is in heav- ¹ en is laughing;
 the Lord holds them ¹ in derision.**

⁵ Then in wrath God ¹ speaks to them,

 and in rage fills ¹ them with terror.

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

⁷ Let me announce the decree ¹ of the Lord,

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

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

⁹ You shall crush them with an ¹ iron rod

 and shatter them like a ¹ piece of pottery.”

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

¹¹ Submit to the ¹ Lord with fear,

 and with trembling ¹ bow in worship;

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

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(We stand)

Gospel Acclamation

No. 172

Alleluia! "This is my Son. Listen to him!"

Alleluia!

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major, common time, and a treble clef. The first two staves are identical, each containing the lyrics "Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah." The third staff concludes the phrase with "Hal - le - lu - jah." The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and a fermata over the final note of the third staff.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon - Bishop Kevin T. Shock

Hymn of the Day: “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

No. 815

Apostles' Creed

Together with the whole church,
we confess the faith into which we were baptized.

**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 Intercession

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen all the faithful with the vision of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross and the resurrection. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deeper respect for the interdependence of all life and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict in both Gaza and Ukraine. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees and other places of danger. Teach us how to welcome the stranger as you have commanded. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to anyone who is experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and we who grieve the loss of our beloved Pastor Rebecca. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Transforming 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, our bright Morning Star. 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.**

Rite of the Installation of the Parish Council and Interim Pastor

Presentation

The 2026 Council members from each member congregation come forward as their names are read.

Pastor: I present these sisters and brothers who have been elected to the Congregation Councils of Christ Lutheran Church and Moxham Lutheran Church. We give thanks for their willingness to serve our shared mission.

And we give thanks for the leaders of the Parish Council of Living Waters Lutheran Parish. These leaders have been elected by our Congregation Councils to serve as an advisory body for oversight of the shared mission and ministry in our Parish.

From Christ Lutheran: Scott Becker, President; Shannon Miller, Vice President; Carol Berkhammer, Secretary; and Jill Laslo, Treasurer.

From Moxham: President (to be elected on Feb. 22); Mark Koch, Vice President; Linda Carrier, Secretary; Scott Rugh, Treasurer.

Scripture Address

Assisting Minister: St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12: "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. God has so composed the body that there may be no dissension, but that the members may have the same care for one another."

The Vows

Bishop: You have been called to be the eyes, hands, and heart of Christ across our congregations. Are you ready to bridge our diverse gifts for the sake of the Gospel and to serve this joint ministry with faith and integrity?

Parish Council Leaders: I am, and I ask God to help me.

Bishop: Will you strive to ensure that our congregations work in harmony, honoring our unique histories while building a shared future to carry out the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Allegheny Synod?

Parish Council Leaders: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Congregation Response

Bishop: People of God, you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. Will you support these leaders with your prayers and with active participation in our joint work?

Assembly: We will, and we ask God to help us.

Commissioning

Bishop: I now declare you installed as leaders of this Parish in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Almighty God bless you and direct your days and your deeds in peace.

Assembly: Amen.

Installation of the Interim Pastor

Bishop: Having been appointed earlier by Bishop Collins and with my affirmation, and having been approved by both Congregation Councils, will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, and promise to discharge your duties in harmony with the constitution of the church?

Pastor West: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Bishop: Will you love, serve, and pray for God's people? Will you nourish them with the Word and Holy Sacraments, leading them by your own example in the use of the means of grace, in faithful service and holy living?

Pastor West: I will, and I ask God to help me.

Bishop: And you, people of God, will you receive this messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve God's people with the Gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard him/her as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?

Assembly: We will.

Bishop: The office of Interim Pastor of the Living Waters Lutheran Parish is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do God's will, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever.

Assembly: Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share a sign of Christ's peace with others.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Presentation of Gifts: "How Good Lord to be Here."

No. 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;

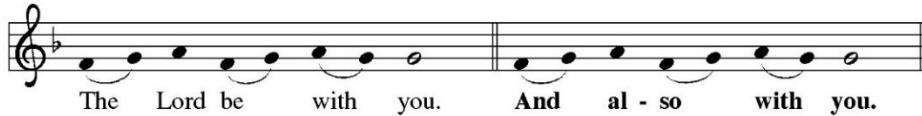


your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

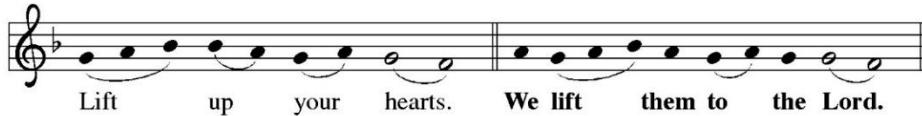
Offering Prayer

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.

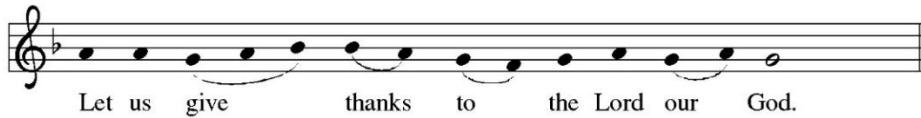
The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



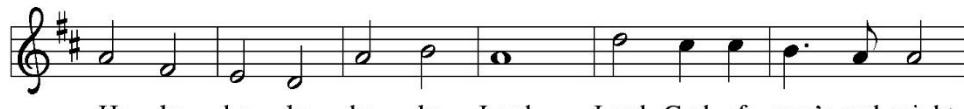
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy are you, and holy is your child, Jesus Christ.
When he went up the mountain with his disciples,
he stood in the company of Moses and Elijah,
enveloped in the bright cloud of your presence.

When he saw that his friends were afraid,
he touched them with compassion, freeing them from fear.

Words of Institution

With this bread and cup, we remember your Word made flesh,
his dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may become one with Christ,
who lived and died and rose to eternal life,
an eternal blessing for the world.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry
to all the world, until we feast together
at the heavenly banquet in your eternal realm.
Fill us with the light of your Son, our Lord,
who taught us when we pray to say:

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

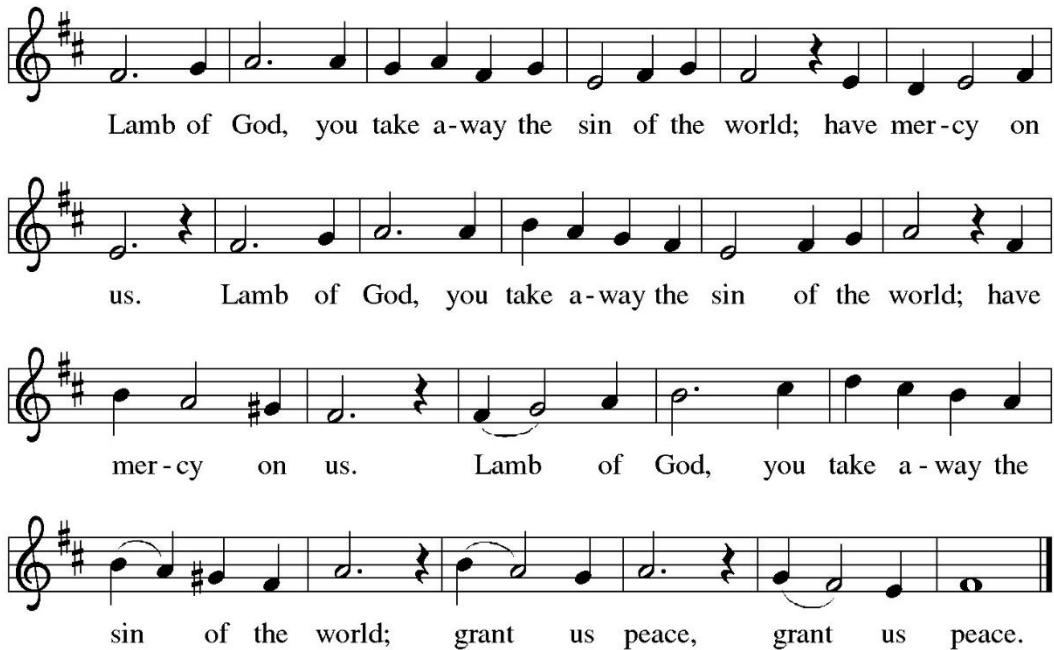
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God



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.

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.

Sending

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

Blessing

The Spirit of the Triune God
bless you with joy as you share in this new ministry.
May God anoint you with compassion
and send you in love.

Amen.

Farewell to the Alleluias (*Wave Your Alleluia Flags*)

We are an Easter people.

And Alleluia is our song.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The author of Ecclesiastes writes: For everything, there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.

A time to be born and a time to die.

A time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted.

A time to break down and a time to build up.

A time to weep and a time to laugh.

A time to mourn and a time to dance.

A time to keep silent and a time to speak.

As a sign of our repentance,

now is a time to sing a farewell to the Alleluias

until we rejoice again at the resurrection of our Lord.

Sending Song: “Alleluia, Song of Gladness” (*Wave those Alleluias*)

No. 318

Collection and Burial of our Alleluias

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

All are invited to a reception and brunch in Fellowship Hall

Living Waters Lutheran Parish **Serving in Worship Today**

The Rev. Kevin T. Shock, Bishop

The Rev. James N. West, Interim Pastor

Marsha Hutzell, Assisting Minister

Mike Thomas, Dir. Of Music and Live Streaming

Camedon Williams, Crucifer

Mark Koch and Cheryl Becker, Lectors

Bob Matson, Cantor

Kathy McCreary and Shannon Miller, Greeters

Linda Dobson, Acolyte

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The Rev. Kevin T. Shock was elected on November 1, 2025, to a six-year term as the **Bishop of the Allegheny Synod** and was installed last weekend at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Johnstown. “Today”, he writes, “will be my first service and official congregational visit as Bishop!”

Bishop Shock considers himself “A Central Pennsylvania Lutheran, which is reflective of my living within 70 miles of Altoona for my entire life (outside of seminary and one year abroad in college). I’m rooted here!” At November’s Synod Assembly, he spoke about three things he would prioritize to begin his term: “a deep and focused listening to people, a commitment to continue the team-building emphasis that began while Bp. Collins was among us, and leading our people in doing fundamental work in scripture and our Confessions together.”

In listening to leaders across the Synod, he has instituted a team of four pastors to assist him in carrying out the fundamental responsibilities of the office of bishop in the ELCA. Each of his team of four pastors will work one-quarter time to assist his ministry.

The Rev. Deacon Alicia Anderson will serve as **Assistant to the Bishop for Formation**, overseeing our Synod’s candidacy process. She will work with people who are discerning God’s call to public ministry and coordinate educational events for lay people and clergy. She also serves as Campus Minister for Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State.

The Rev. Tyler Graham will serve as **Assistant to the Bishop for Transition**, working closely with congregations who are seeking new leaders, clergy who are seeking a new call, and with the Synod Deans to secure pastoral coverage in times of vacancy. He also serves as Pastor of the Living Waters Lutheran Parish.

The Rev. Marty Jo Irvin-Stellabotte will serve as **Assistant to the Bishop for Communications**, generating official Synod communications across all of our media, interpreting ELCA communications for our Synod, and working with congregations as they share their news with our Synod and their local community. She also serves as Pastor of the Geeseytown-Newry Lutheran Parish.

The Rev. Traci Marriott will serve as **Assistant to the Bishop for Life Together**, working with others to match people’s gifts for ministry with the needs of our Synod. She will encourage a healthy philosophy of stewardship for congregations and individuals, and ensure that Synod resources support ministry well. She also serves as Pastor at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Martinsburg.

Bishop Shock and his spouse, Lisa Bahr, live in Howard with two dogs (more dogs are always pending). Thanks to Lisa, his other passion is animal rescue. He finds renewal in praying, hiking, bicycling, kayaking, and listening to his record collection.