

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Listen to Him
February 10 & 11, 2024
5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

Within the pandemonium of the transfiguration, the voice speaks: "This is My beloved Son; listen to Him" (Mark 9:7). Moses is there and gone. Elijah is there and gone. The disciples are with Him on the mount and then head down into the valley. But the glory of the Lord will not depart. It will remain: lifted high upon the cross, revealed in the empty tomb, and placed upon the followers of Jesus. It is the Word that endures forever, the Word made flesh, and the Word who speaks through the voice of Scripture. The call remains: "Listen to Him."

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

And Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. Mark 8:31

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #537

"Beautiful Savior"

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.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

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.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: The King in His might loves justice.

People: You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Pastor: Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain;

People: for the LORD our God is holy!

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: O most merciful God, who has given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Page 204

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ **WORD** ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 34:29–35* (Moses comes down the mountain with the Law in his hands and the glory of the Lord upon his face.)²⁹ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.³⁰ Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to

come near him.³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them.³² Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai.³³ And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.³⁴ Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded,³⁵ the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 3:12–18; 4:1–6* (We all, with unveiled face, behold the glory of God.)¹² Since we have such a hope, we are very bold,¹³ not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away.¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts.¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

5:00 CHOIR *“Come Witness Here What God Makes Good”*

8:00 BELLS *“Shine, Jesus Shine”*

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 9:2–9* (With Moses and Elijah at His side, Jesus reveals His glory.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

²And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” ⁸And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. ⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“Let Me Learn of Jesus”

Let me learn of Jesus; He is kind to me
Once He died to save me, nailed upon the tree.

When I go to Jesus, He will hear me pray
Make me pure and holy, take my sins away.

Let me think of Jesus; He is full of love,
Looking down upon me From His throne above.

5 continued

Oh, how good is Jesus! May He hold my hand
And at last receive me To a better land.

SERMON HYMN #583 “God Has Spoken By His Prophets”

God has spoken by His prophets, Spoken His unchanging Word;
Each from age to age proclaiming God, the one, the righteous Lord.
In the world’s despair and turmoil, One firm anchor holds us fast:
God is king, His throne eternal; God the first, and God the last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ, the everlasting Son,
Brightness of the Father’s glory, With the Father ever one;
Spoken by the Word Incarnate, God of God, before time was;
Light of Light, to earth descending, He reveals our God to us.

God is speaking by His Spirit, Speaking to our heart’s again,
In the ageless Word declaring His own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations One sure faith yet standing fast;
God abides, His Word unchanging; God the first, and God the last.

SERMON “It Can Be Hard to Listen...But Listen We Must!” Mark 9:2-9

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Holy Father, with the appearance of Moses and Elijah at our Lord's glorious Transfiguration, you reveal to us that the Law and the prophets are fulfilled in Jesus Christ, your Son. Send your blessing upon all pastors and servants of your Church, especially our Together in Mission partner, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family.

People: Empower their preaching and teaching by your Holy Spirit, that many would believe and have a right understanding of Christ and His work for our eternal salvation.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, from the cloud you declared Jesus to be your beloved Son and then you gave the strong command to "Listen to Him!"

People: Grant us ears to hear, hearts to believe and trust his Word, and the will to follow in His ways all our days.

Pastor: Almighty God, grant faithfulness, humility and patience to the sheep of your flock here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, that we may use our gifts and abilities to serve others.

People: Bless us in our various vocations, that we may strive to love you and our neighbor in all that we say and do.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, bless the families of your Church, that parents would teach the faith to their children, children would learn to respect their parents, and that the forgiveness of sins would abound in all households.

People: Remember especially all expectant mothers, that they and their babies would be kept safe and healthy throughout their pregnancies.

Pastor: Lord of all, we give you thanks and praise for St. Paul's Lutheran School and our student leaders helping with our worship services this weekend.

People: Bless teachers and students to love and respect each other, to grow together in the faith, and to live in harmony with one another.

Pastor: Almighty Father, you alone establish all authority on earth. Bless those entrusted with this responsibility both here and abroad.

People: Move them to serve with integrity and honor, with wisdom from above, and always seeking the well-being of all.

Pastor: God of all grace, look with compassion on those who are in need, especially Michael, Margie, Anna, Jim, Eugene, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Janice, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Vern, Cathy, Cindy, Helga, June, Shirley and Sarah. Grant them relief and comfort in accordance with your will.

People: Above all, grant them patience, endurance, and hope through the promise of sharing in eternal glory with Christ.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you revealed your glory in the Transfiguration of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who tabernacled among us in the flesh. Open our eyes, that by faith we would see Him continuing to dwell among us as we gather for worship.

People: Grant that we would heed your admonition to "listen to Him" as He forgives and preserves us at the font, pulpit and altar.

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the glory of your Son's divinity revealed on the Mount of Transfiguration. Teach us to listen to Jesus and ever fix our eyes on Him. By your grace and mercy, strengthen us to remain faithful in all times 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.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Page 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #413 "O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"

O wondrous type! O vision fair Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, Where brighter than the sun He glows!

With Moses and Elijah nigh Th' incarnate Lord holds converse high;
And from the cloud the Holy One Bears record to the only Son.

With shining face and bright array Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above Who joy in God with perfect love.

And faithful hearts are raised on high By this great vision's mystery,
For which in joyful strains we raise The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

(Rise) O Father, with th' eternal Son And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace To see Thy glory face to face.

HYMN #545 "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

Word of God, come down on earth, Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.

Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die, Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring, Speak to us, Your love outpouring.

Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be; Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken, Heal the world, by sin now broken.

Word that speaks God's tender love, One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above, God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

HYMN #414 "'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.

Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

LITANY ON ALLELUIA

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the prophets of old;

People: Christ is coming; prepare His way.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said angels and shepherds;

People: Christ is born; the Word made flesh is come to earth.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the Magi from the East;

People: Christ is King; bow down in worship and bring offerings to Him.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the Baptizer John;

People: Christ is here; the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the servants and disciples;

People: Christ is Lord; revealed clearly in water changed to wine.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the people;

People: Christ is Messiah; fulfilled of God's promise and the prophets' word.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the fishermen;

People: Christ is Master; follow Him and fish for men.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the sick and suffering;

People: Christ is healer; trust Him for healing and hope in Him for life brand new.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the students;

People: Christ is teacher; listen to His word and wisdom.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said Moses and Elijah;

People: Christ is God; the Light of Light has come to shine on us the love from on high.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the apostles, standing on the mountain high;

People: Christ is shining; in this glory let us stay.

Pastor: "Alleluia," said the Savior, "Christ means suffering";

People: Down the mount the Lord must go and meet the death that awaits Him in the valley below.

Pastor: "Alleluia," bids the Savior, "follow Me and be not afraid";

People: Christ reveals greater glory hidden in the cross and grave; there we find salvation's story and there we find the hope which saves.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #417 "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

Alleluia, thou resoundest, True Jerusalem and free;
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,
But by Babylon's sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.

Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.

Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

Preacher

Pastor Harold Bender

Liturgist

Pastor Joshua Grotelueschen

Lector

Marc Stefanic

Organist

JoLynn Bender

School Worship Team

Valerie Baker, William Baker, Anna Carson, Eliza Carson, Gus Carson, Lilly Carson,
Eli Galindo, Nadia Galindo, Abby Geitz, Peyton Guzikowski, Alexander Meeks,
Declan O'Brien, Alysse Partl, Brady Romano, Lance Romano, Logan Romano,
Audrey Segura, Noah Segura, Skylee Ulatowski, Madison Vogt, Ameena Wilbur,
Addie Zellmer, Braelyn Zellmer