

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Brilliant!

February 14 & 15, 2026

AS WE GATHER

Jesus looks brilliant! As language changes, sometimes the most basic meanings of words change and expand with the times. For generations, the English word *brilliant* meant simply something that shines or radiates light. The word is thought to be derived from the prized gemstone beryl, which is mentioned in both the Old Testament book of Daniel (10:6) and the book of Revelation (21:20). Jesus' garments became "white as light," Matthew writes (17:2), in a way that mirrors Psalm 104, where the psalmist writes of God: "You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment" (vv. 1–2). As He stands on the mountaintop with Moses and Elijah, Jesus is shining, radiant, and brilliant. An expanded meaning of the word *brilliant* is "perfect, amazing, and wonderful." Jesus on the mountaintop is brilliant as He discusses how He will carry out God's plan of our salvation with two of the best coaches ever, Moses and Elijah. Jesus does not just look brilliant—He *is* brilliant!

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

MINISTRY MOMENT – Mr. Josiah Hahn, 8th Grade Banquet Fundraiser

VERSE

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵ and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. **2 Corinthians 5:14-15**

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #873 "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise; Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return Till Thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Pastor: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

Pastor: For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness,"

People: has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O God our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you in thought and in word and in deed.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not always listened to your Word and have not brought glory to you through our words and our deeds.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, begrudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not always been defenders of the weak and the needy, as advocates of those not yet born and defenders of those in the final stages of life.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We confess that we have not used every opportunity given us to witness to the faith that is ours, that we and have let the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh set the agendas for our lives and actions.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: We repent of all that is sinful in our lives, both those things that we know of and those things unknown to us that are against your righteous laws. Strengthen us all to walk the paths of righteousness.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #941 “We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God”

We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:
“O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”

The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:
“O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,
And Holy Spirit, Comforter--forever Three in One!”

You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev’ry one:
You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin’s womb,
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve-
You opened heaven’s kingdom to all who would believe.

You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God’s right hand,
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.
We know that you will come as our Judge that final day,
So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

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 24:8–18* (Moses meets with the Lord God on Mount Sinai.) ⁸ And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said,

“Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”⁹ Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up,¹⁰ and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness.

¹¹ And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. ¹² The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³ So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

¹⁴ And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.” ¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst 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 people of Israel. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *2 Peter 1:16–21* (Peter writes of his mountaintop experience with Jesus.)¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,”¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

5:00 CHOIR

“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”

9:00 CHORISTERS

“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 17:1–9* (Jesus is transfigured on a high mountaintop.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, 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 white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁵ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. ⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised 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

HYMN #712

“Seek Ye First”

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev’ry word
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, alleluia!

SERMON 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!

SERMON

“How Well Do We Listen?”

Matthew 17:1-9

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

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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.

(Rise)

CREED *The First Article*

Pastor: In the First Article of the Apostles’ Creed, our confession is focused on God our Creator, from whom our divine Savior, Jesus Christ, was begotten before all worlds. It is the voice of God the Father that we hear on the Mount of Transfiguration, acclaiming His Son, Jesus, and directing His disciples to listen to Him. As we declare our faith in God the Father, we affirm our trust in His plan for us as His children to grant us life and to place us into vocations through which we can serve Him and our neighbors.

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

(Be seated)

9:00 DURING OFFERING CHORISTERS *“Shine, Jesus, Shine”*

OFFERING 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.

Lord God, you showed your Son to be both God and man in the brightness of His transfiguration, and You called us to “Listen to Him!”

People: Grant us open ears and open hearts, as well as holy fear and willing spirits to hear, believe, and follow Jesus all our days.

Pastor: Lord of the Church, uphold all Christians in the confession of their Lord’s name and faithful reception of His Word and blessed Sacraments. Uphold all who serve in Christ’s church, pastors, teachers, deaconesses, and others in positions of leadership.

People: Bless especially our Together in Mission partners, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family, and give wisdom to our Lutheran Church leaders at the synod, district, and circuit levels. Give them discernment, and equip them for their tasks that serve the Church.

Pastor: Lord of all, you provide spiritual leadership through pastors who are called to preach and teach your Word. Bless the Call Committee as they present names of pastoral candidates.

People: Give your people wisdom and discernment, that we might call the man whom you have elected to be our next senior pastor.

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

People: Remember all expectant mothers, that they and their babies would be kept safe and healthy throughout their pregnancies. Bless mothers with unexpected pregnancies to bring their child into the world.

Pastor: Lord of hosts, as you reign over all peoples, you entrust earthly authority to the rulers of this world. Instill in our president and all who make, administer and judge our laws a right fear of you.

People: Grant that they would serve with honesty and integrity, that they would establish equity, and serve the common good.

Pastor: Lord God, you sent your Son, Jesus, as the Great Physician of body and soul. By His touch, He banished the fear of His disciples. Bless all those in need of His comfort, especially the family and friends of Karen Kadis upon her passing, and also Pastor Schumacher, Barb, Marlene, Zach, Katherine, Carole, Kathy, Dan, Maxine, Pam, Marilyn, Dorothy, Janet, Jerry, Paula, Rhonda, Harland, June, Sharon, John, Debbie, Janice, David, Helga, Dick, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Guy, Jill, Cathy and Sarah.

People: Give them peace in the midst of fear and restore them in both body and soul.

Pastor: Lord God, you have poured out the blood of your Son from the cup of the new covenant. We praise and thank you that He has been sacrificed for us and feeds us from His altar.

People: By your grace, grant us a place with saints and angels before His heavenly throne.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, grant that we who have heard the Word of your Son, Jesus Christ, would reverently receive it, believe it, and live it out in daily life.

People: Fill us with your Spirit, that we may gladly live according to His way, wherever it may lead us.

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember on this day the glorious revelation of Your Son's divinity 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 circumstances of trial, temptation and persecution. Preserve us in the faith to the end; 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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times in all places give thanks to you, our merciful 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. Grant us to share in their vision and witness and with all the faithful to look forward to the glory yet to be revealed. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and honor you this day and always, singing:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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THE 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(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.

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

HYMN #837

“Lift High the Cross”

Refrain: *Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.*

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. *Refrain*

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. *Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *Refrain*

Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be;
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

HYMN #631

“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

I have no help but Thine;
nor do I need Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
The blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

Pastor: This week, on Ash Wednesday, we begin our observance of Lent. To highlight the penitential nature of the season, it has been the custom in the church to suspend the use of the word *alleluia*, which means "Praise the Lord." The tradition not to use the joyful word *alleluia* in worship from the conclusion of worship on the final Sunday before Lent until the first service on Easter Sunday has been in place since the fifth century. The text of the hymn "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" (*LSB* 417) dates back to the 11th century and links us to a millennium of God's people at

worship. We will repeat words from the book of Ecclesiastes, which remind us that there are appropriate times for all things, including a time to keep silence, which we will observe regarding use of the *alleluia* throughout Lent. For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;

People: a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

Pastor: a time to break down, and a time to build up;

People: a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

Pastor: a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

People: a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Pastor: As part of our observance of a holy Lent as it begins this week, we now say farewell to the *alleluia* until the time of our rejoicing anew at the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day.

People: Alleluia! Amen.

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠Son, and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #655 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Preacher & Liturgist
Lectors
Organist

Pastor Harold Bender
Marc Stefanic, Katie Librizzi
Deaconess Carole King

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