

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Listen to Him

February 22 & 23, 2020

AS WE GATHER

We consider the Father's words on the Mount of Transfiguration: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." The Father bears witness to the authority of the Son. Remember God's words to listen to the voice of Jesus. We also recall the brightness of Jesus shining upon the disciples. Jesus' transfiguration reminds us of the blessing we hear every week at the end of worship in the Benediction for the Lord's face to shine upon us. In the person of Jesus, God's face certainly shines upon us, and we look forward to the day when Christ returns in glory to permanently shine His face upon us.

WELCOME

"Great, indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, and taken up in glory."

(1 Timothy 3:16, ESV)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

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 un-borrowed 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.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord is great in Zion.

People: **He is exalted over all the peoples.**

Pastor: Let them praise your great and awesome name!

People: **Holy is He!**

Pastor: The Lord's face will shine upon us,

People: **and give us peace.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Today we celebrate the transfiguration of Jesus. We hear the voice of our heavenly Father saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." Yet, as we follow Jesus, we have often failed to listen to His words. We have chosen to listen to the voice of the world rather than the voice of our transfigured Lord. So now, we come before our heavenly Father to ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: **we confess that we have not listened to you or your Son. We have ignored His voice and plugged our ears to His words of mercy. Forgive our sins and open our ears to your voice once again.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen. God's face has shined upon us. We are forgiven in Christ.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

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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. Heavenly Father, in the transfiguration of your Son you have shined grace and glory upon the world, and by your own testimony we hear that Jesus is indeed your beloved Son. Help us to heed your voice and bask in the light of your grace; through Jesus Christ, our transfigured Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

GROUNDWORK GUATEMALA COMMISSIONING

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Exodus 24:8–18* (Moses goes up to Mount Sinai.)

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." Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, 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. And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. 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." So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 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." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 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. 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. 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 recounts seeing Jesus' transfiguration and hearing God's voice.) 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. 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," we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 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, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 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.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 17:1–9* (Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John.)

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. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 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." 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." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. 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 MESSAGE

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 "Mountains and Valleys in Christ"

Text: The Gospel reading of the Transfiguration

(Rise)

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.

5 continued

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)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** 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 book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: It is good that we are here, O Lord. Hear us as we pray for your Church throughout the world, for each of us according to our needs, and for all people everywhere.

Brief silence

Pastor: Almighty God, on the Mount of Transfiguration you revealed your Son to be the holy One who kept the Law you gave to Moses and fulfilled to Elijah and all the prophets the promise of a Savior. Grant to your Church the grace to receive your Son with faith, to rejoice in the revelation of your saving glory in Him, and to live by the light of His Word all our days. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, from age to age you gave us glimpses of your glory until the fuller revelation of your Son. Grant to us pastors who will preach the whole counsel of your Word and provide to us faithful pastoral care. Bless missionaries, especially our Together in Mission partners Pastor Chuck Ferry and family and Rachel Meyer and also the work of POBLO. Guard, protect, and prosper the work of our Groundwork Guatemala team as they serve Jesus and his people in Guatemala. Bless us with church workers to teach our children and do the works of mercy that show forth Your love to those in need. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, all the might of man pales before your power. Bless, we pray, Donald, our president; the Congress of these United States; Tony, our governor; and all judges and magistrates. Give them wisdom to fulfill the responsibilities entrusted to them, that justice may prevail, life may be protected, virtue encouraged, and all people kept safe and secure against threat and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, we give you thanks for St. Paul's Lutheran School and the opportunity to host the 59th annual St. Paul's Boys Basketball Tournament. Bless the athletes in the use of their abilities, move them to display Christian sportsmanship, and bless their relationships with both teammates, coaches, and opponents. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, give to all those in any affliction the comfort of your presence and grace for their every need. Give healing to the sick according to your will, give comfort to those who mourn, and give peace to the dying. Especially do we pray for Doug, Edith, Norma, Marilyn, Tim, Dennis, Barb, Carol, Sydney, Diane, Dorothy, June, John, Arlene, Jerry, Judi, Nancy, Robert, Russ, Steve, Sharon, Bette, Nathan, Cindy, Shirley, Bill, Katie, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley, Sarah and those we name in our hearts, that they may have strength, patience and peace to bear up in the burdens of this life. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, you have manifested your greatest glory by giving us your own Son to be our Savior and Redeemer. Help us to receive in faith our Lord who gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Open our hearts to receive forgiveness of sin and strength to live holy lives. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, you have blessed us with abundance, but we pray you to teach our hearts to know contentment and peace in all the blessings you have supplied. Make us generous, that what we have received we may share with those in need and give to your Church as the tithes and offerings of a grateful heart and a confident faith. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, comfort those who grieve in these days: the family and friends of Karl Barth as well as Dawn who grieves the passing of her cousin, Michael. Comfort also Charles as he remembers his mother, Marcella and bless the Heimsoth family as they are comforted in knowing that Jerry is celebrating in heaven. Guard the truth you have planted in our hearts, that we may be found blameless and enter into His presence with all the saints who have gone on before us. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things we pray, almighty Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, through whom you have made known to us the mystery of your saving glory. As He has fulfilled all the Law and kept the promise of the prophets, bless us to honor your Word with an obedient heart and walk in His ways, doing all that is good and right and pleasing in your sight; through 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

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

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 Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

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 re-soundest, 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 for-go;
 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.

HYMN #539 "Christ is the World's Redeemer"

Christ is the world's Redeemer, The lover of the pure,
 The font of heav'nly wisdom, Our trust and hope secure,
 The armor of His soldiers, The Lord of earth and sky,
 Our health while we are living, Our life when we shall die.

Christ has our host surrounded With clouds of martyrs bright,
 Who wave their palms in triumph And fire us for the fight.
 Then Christ the cross ascended To save a world undone
 And, suff'ring for the sinful, Our full redemption won.

Down through the realm of darkness He strode in victory,
 And at the hour appointed He rose triumphantly.
 And now, to heav'n ascended, He sits upon the throne
 Whence He had ne'er departed, His Father's and His own.

Glory to God the Father, The unbegotten One,
 All honor be to Jesus, His sole begotten Son,
 And to the Holy Spirit- The perfect Trinity.
 Let all the worlds give answer: Amen! So let it be.

HYMN #621 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Let all mortal flesh keep silence And with fear and trembling stand;
 Ponder nothing earthly-minded, For with blessing in His hand
 Christ our God to earth descending Comes our homage to demand.

King of kings yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood,
 Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood,
 He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way
 As the Light of Light, descending From the realms of endless day,
 Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish As the darkness clears a way.

At His feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye,
 Veil their faces to the presence As with ceaseless voice they cry:
 "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

People: Amen.

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.**

HYMN #922 "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.

In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.

Go, My children, with My blessing – You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.

Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, Saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;

Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.

Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace.

I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;

I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

Preacher
Liturgist
Acolytes
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Harold Bender
Pastor Noah Kegley
Emma Bingenheimer, Lillia Carson
Michelle Prince



Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020

Worship at 10:00am & 6:00pm