

February 14, 2021

*The Transfiguration
Of Our Lord*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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Worship:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Communion:

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Adult Bible Study &

Sunday School:

9:30 am

(Grace Hall)

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 14, 2021

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE	<i>(Fri. service)</i>	"O Blessed Spring"	setting: S. Wallace
		<i>Trumpet Solo, Susan Messersmith</i>	
	<i>(Sun. services)</i>	"O Blessed Spring"	arr. M. Ham
		"Majesty"	arr. J. Rouse

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION, *from the back of the sanctuary*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our gracious God has not left us alone in our fallen state. Jesus entered the stage of human history to die for our sins and rise with the promise of heaven. Let us therefore go to the throne of God's grace and confess our sins.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Heavenly Father,
G **we confess that we would prefer to ascend to the heavens like Elijah, but without acknowledging our sin. Forgive us. We confess that we have let the troubles of this world cloud our vision of Christ's innocence and blessedness. Forgive us. We confess that we have not let His strong promises guide us when we have left mountaintop worship to go to the plain of daily living. Forgive us.**
- P** Our hope for daily and eternal forgiveness is secure, for He who was transfigured is the One who was raised on the third day. 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.

C Amen.

P "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" (2 *Corinthians* 4:6). As Jesus entered human history to call us out of this dark world, so let us now be bold to enter into His presence with rejoicing.

C In the name of Jesus. Amen!

✠ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ✠

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Majesty"



Maj - es - ty, wor - ship his maj - es - ty: un - to
Je - sus be all glo - ry, hon - or, and praise.
Maj - es - ty, king - dom au - thor - i - ty flows from his
throne un - to his own; his an - them raise.
So ex - alt, lift up on high the name of Je - sus.
Mag - ni - fy, come glo - ri - fy Christ Je - sus, the king.

Maj - es - ty, wor - ship his maj - es - ty:
 Je - sus who died, now glo - ri - fied,
 King of all kings. kings. Je - sus who
 died, now glo - ri - fied, King of all kings.

CELEBRATION OF THE DAY

- P** On February 14, we commemorate Valentine, Martyr. The word “martyr” reminds us that Valentine died for confessing his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. For eighteen hundred years, Valentine’s faithful witness has inspired Christian people to faith-filled words and loving deeds.
- A** A physician and priest in Rome during the rule of Emperor Claudius, Valentine lived in a time when Christians were harshly persecuted because of their religion. Arrested by Roman authorities, he received a death sentence. Tradition suggests that while Valentine was waiting in prison for his day of execution, he developed a friendship with the young daughter of his jailer. He told the girl about Jesus and shared his hope of heaven. On the day of his execution, he left her a note cut into a special shape. Written inside was a message of affection and encouragement. He signed the letter “your Valentine,” beginning a tradition that has changed and grown through the centuries.
- P** Love for Christ and love in Christ shaped the actions of Valentine. On Valentine’s Day, it is good to reflect on what that love is like. In the hymn “Love in Christ Is Strong and Living,” poet Dorothy R. Schultz helps our reflection with three beautiful stanzas, set to music by her husband, Ralph C. Schultz. Together we sing the hymn.



1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing, Bind - ing faith - ful
 2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing, Clothed in Christ's hu -
 3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er, Faint - ing not when



hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giv - ing.
 mil - i - ty, Gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,
 ills at - tend; Love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



May His will in us be done.
 Reach - ing out in char - i - ty.
 Shall en - dure un - til life's end.

SALUTATION AND PRAYERS OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Lord of love, bless our remembering of the saints of ages past, including Your servant Valentine.

C **Help us proclaim Your love in our day in word and deed as we look forward to the great reunion with all of the saints in Your heavenly kingdom;**

P through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P 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.

C **Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven;**

P through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Kings 2:1-12

- A** Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel."
- P** As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.
- A** So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him,
- C Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?**
- P** Yes, I know it; keep quiet.
- A** Elisha, please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.
- P** As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.
- A** So they came to Jericho. The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him,
- C Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?**
- P** Yes, I know it; keep quiet.
- A** Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.
- P** As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.
- A** So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you."
- P** Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.
- A** You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so. And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of

them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried,

- P** My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!
- A** And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 50:1-6 (refrain: v.2)

- A** Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.
The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- C** **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**
- A** Our God comes; He does not keep silence;
before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.
- C** **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**
- A** He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that He may judge his C
- C** **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**
- A** "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"
- C** **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**
- A** The heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge!
- C** **Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.**

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 3:12-13, 4:1-6

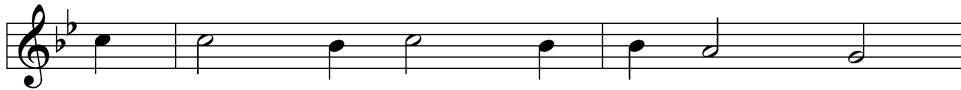
The Word is read...

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL PROCESSION

"O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"



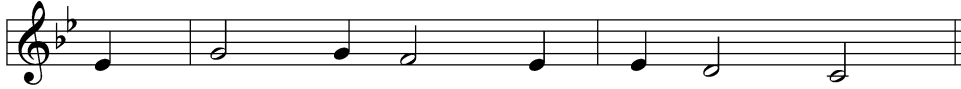
1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high
 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son



Of glo - ry that the Church may share,
 The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,
 And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,



Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 And from the cloud the Ho - ly One
 What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 For which in joy - ful strains we raise
 We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace



Where bright - er than the sun He glows!
 Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.
 Who joy in God with per - fect love.
 The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
 To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

"'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

LSB 414



1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy
 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past And
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, We
 5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,
 beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -
 hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y
 see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the
 we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us

Sit

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“On the Mountain Top”, Mark 9:2-5

Billy Milam

SERMON

Stand

APOSTLES’ CREED *(on front screens)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray that our Lord Jesus would enter the lives of all for whom we pray, ruling in them and effecting His will among them.
- A** For all who do not know Christ, that God would send people of faith to them with the good news of salvation; and for those whose faith is weak, that the Holy Spirit would use Word and Sacrament to strengthen them, let us pray to the Lord.
- G Father in heaven, Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**
- A** For all who suffer injustice and persecution, that the Lord of the nations would raise up visionary leaders to find the ways that work for peace with their neighbors and dignity for all within their borders; and for all who order society, that our heavenly Father would guide, direct and protect them in their various callings, let us pray to the Lord.
- G Father in heaven, Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**
- A** For all who work the land, that God would provide bountiful harvests; and for all who manage the world’s resources, that God would give them wisdom so that

future generations may realize our Creator's generosity, let us pray to the Lord.

G Father in heaven, Your kingdom come, Your will be done.

A For ourselves, that our Lord would keep us strong in faith, secure in hope, and abounding in love, let us pray to the Lord,

G Father in heaven, Your kingdom come, Your will be done.

P For all who are sick, lonely, anxious or in mourning, (*including...*) that the Holy Spirit would visit, relieve, accompany, assure, and comfort them, let us pray to the Lord.

G Father in heaven, Your kingdom come, Your will be done.

P Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER, (on front screens)

Sit

MISSION MINUTE

Food Baskets

John Kinney

BENEDICTION

P The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

G Amen.

✠ ALLELUIA BURYING ✠

P During Lent, which begins this Wednesday, it is customary to not sing Alleluias. "Alleluia" means "Praise ye the Lord." We will sing it next on Easter. To symbolize this, as we sing the hymn, we shall lower this Alleluia banner into this coffin-shaped box, raising it on Easter, the day our Lord rose from the grave.

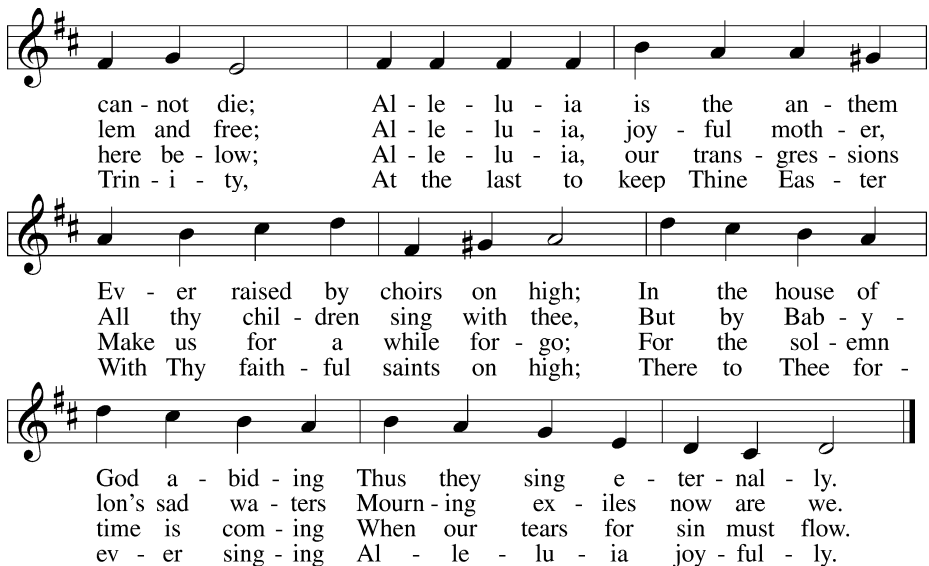
HYMN

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

LSB 417



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, Voice of joy that
2 Al - le - lu - ia, thou re - sound - est, True Je - ru - sa -
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways Be our song while
4 There - fore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, bless - ed



can - not die; Al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
 lem and free; Al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er,
 here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia, our trans - gres - sions
 Trin - i - ty, At the last to keep Thine Eas - ter

Ev - er raised by choirs on high; In the house of
 All thy chil - dren sing with thee, But by Bab - y -
 Make us for a while for - go; For the sol - emn
 With Thy faith - ful saints on high; There to Thee for -

God a - bid - ing Thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 lon's sad wa - ters Mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.
 time is com - ing When our tears for sin must flow.
 ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

Deaconess Karen Suter

A Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"He is Exalted"

arr. F. Bock

PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. James Pierce

Deaconess: Karen Suter

Organist: Patty Barnes

Trumpet: Susan Messersmith

Acknowledgments

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