

**March 2, 2025**

*The Transfiguration  
Of Our Lord*



**GRACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

1600 Old Trolley Rd  
Summerville, SC  
29485-8275

Office:  
(843) 871-5444

E-mail:  
office@  
gracesummerville.org

Website:  
[www.gracesummerville](http://www.gracesummerville.org)  
.org

+

Divine Service:  
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am  
*Sundays*

Adult Bible Study &  
Sunday School:  
9:30 am

+

Pastor:  
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:  
Karen Suter

Organist:  
Patty Barnes

# THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

March 2, 2025

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...** *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

### PRELUDE

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"  
"O Wondrous Type, O Vision Fair"

setting: R. Schultz  
setting: R. Mackie

### WELCOME

*Stand*

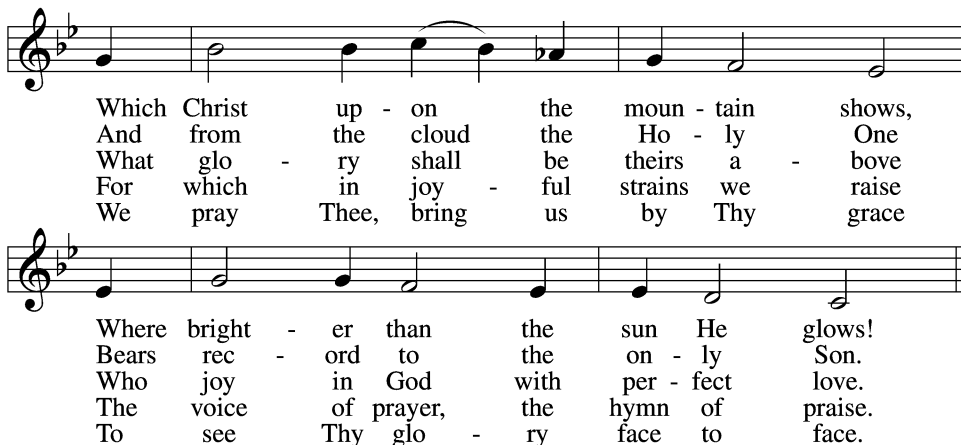
### HYMN

"O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"

**LSB 413**

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.

Text: Sarum Breviary, 1495, Salisbury; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt., Tune: English, 15th cent., Text and tune: Public domain

## INVOCATION

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

## OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Jesus, take us to the mountain, where, with Peter, James, and John,
- C** we are dazzled by Your glory, light as blinding as the sun.
  
- P** There prepare us for the night
- C** by the vision of that sight.
  
- P** What do You want us to hear there, that Your dear disciples heard?
- C** Once again the Voice from heaven says of the Incarnate Word:
  
- P** "Listen, listen, everyone,
- C** This is My beloved Son!"

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** We confess our sin to God our Father.
- C** **God of mercy and forgiveness, God of revelation and promise, we confess that we are burdened with sin—sin that consumes, unravels, deceives, and**

**stifles faith. Enable us by Your Word to increase our willingness to bear our crosses, resist temptation, and follow You alone! In our journey, let us continually wage war against Satan and adversaries who would seek to eclipse Your glory.**

- P** Almighty God, we have seen Your glory in the transfiguration of Jesus, Your only-begotten Son. We join in the lineage of prophets and apostles, believing in the glory and the cross of Jesus. Crucify our sins on that cross. Envelop us in the light of His glory in these words: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.**

### † SERVICE OF THE WORD †

#### KYRIE

- P** Behold Moses, from the tribe of Levi, prophet of Yahweh, and yet a sinner and thus denied access into the Promised Land.
- C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Behold Elijah, a mighty prophet, judge of Israel, and yet a wounded sinner, hungry, afraid, and depressed.
- C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Behold Peter, James, and John, bold confessors, preachers, disciples, witnesses, and sinners.
- C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord have mercy.**
- P** And behold Jesus, the transfigured Son of God, the source of all comfort, defender against adversity, and fountain of grace.
- C Amen.**

#### HYMN

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

**LSB 873**



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa-nied by Thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a-rise; Tri-umph o'er the shades of night.  
Joy-less is the day's re-turn Till Thy mer-cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine, Scat-ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.  
Till they in - ward light im-part, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
More and more Thy - self dis-play, Shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, Tune: attr. Johann G. Werner, 1777-1822, Text and tune: Public domain

## SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**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. 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.

**G** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Deuteronomy 34:1-12*

The Word is read...

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 99; antiphon: v. 9*



The LORD reigns; let the peoples | tremble!\*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the | earth quake!

The LORD is great in | Zion;\*

he is exalted over all the | peoples.

Let them praise your great and | awesome name!\*

Ho- | ly is he!

The King in his might loves | justice.\*

You have established equity;

you have executed justice

and righteousness in | Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God;

worship at his | footstool!\*

Ho- | ly is he!

Moses and Aaron were among his priests,

Samuel also was among those who called up- | on his name.\*

They called to the LORD, and he | answered them.

In the pillar of the cloud he | spoke to them;\*

they kept his testimonies

and the statute that he | gave them.

O LORD our God, you | answered them;\*

you were a forgiving God to them,

but an avenger of their wrong- | doings.

Exalt the LORD our God,

and worship at his holy | mountain;\*

for the LORD our God is | holy!

## EPISTLE

*Hebrews 3:1-6*

The Word is read...

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

Stand

VERSE

**P** Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men;

**C** grace is poured upon Your lips. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

The Word is read...

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

"Beautiful Savior"

LSB 537



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
pur - er, He makes our sor - r' wing spir - it sing.  
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904, Tune: Silesian, 19th cent., Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

SERMON

**NICENE CREED**

**☩ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**



## Prayer

The early Church's understanding of worship was profoundly shaped by its emphasis on prayer. Luke's account in Acts chapter 2 depicts early Christian gatherings as characterized by three key elements: the teaching of God's word, the sharing of the Eucharist (breaking of bread, Holy Communion), and prayer. This emphasis on prayer is further underscored by Paul's instructions to Timothy (1 Timothy 2:1-2), where he urges the faithful to engage in "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." This wasn't a perfunctory practice; Paul emphasized prayer as a cornerstone of ministry alongside teaching.

The significance of prayer extends beyond the formal gatherings of the Church. James 5:13 directly addresses personal suffering, advocating prayer as a response to hardship. This highlights the pervasive nature of prayer in the Christian life, encompassing both communal worship and individual spiritual struggles.

Consequently, a comprehensive Christian prayer life is characterized by inclusivity and persistence. We should pray indiscriminately, encompassing all people – believers and unbelievers alike, even our enemies – interceding for their needs and spiritual well-being. We should pray for fellow believers, expressing gratitude for their faith and requesting its strengthening. Furthermore, prayer should permeate every aspect of our lives, particularly during times of affliction, illness, or personal failure. It's through consistent, compassionate prayer that we connect with God's grace and experience His transformative power in all circumstances.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ and for all who bear crosses and yet seek to follow Jesus.
- A** As the people of God, let us remember and treasure the saints of old, who struggled to guide and admonish God's people, trusting in His plan. Encourage us by their unwavering witness, determined leadership, and inordinate sacrifice.
- C** **As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, sharing not only in His glory but also in His suffering.**

**P** As the people of God, let us unite ourselves into a common and earnest confession that we are both sinners and saints, baptized into the glory of knowing and being known by Jesus.

**C** **As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, transfigured, glorified, punished, and crucified.**

**A** As the people of God, let us support one another amid so many crosses that are hard to understand and difficult to bear. Safeguard us from harsh, unrelenting judgment of one another. Let us seek to uphold one another in the mercy and grace of God generously given to each one of us.

**C** **As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, generous in forgiveness, patience, understanding, and kindness. Help us to see the light of fellow believers, understanding that the crosses they bear are both visible and invisible to us.**

*Additional prayers for the burdens and crosses of individual members may be included.*

**P** We commend to You, O Lord, the lives of all the witnesses of Your glory and heirs of Your eternal promises. In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## OFFERING

**VOLUNTARY**

“Beautiful Saviour”

arr. P. Davis

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY

LSB 176



**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will  
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**PREFACE**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**PROPER PREFACE**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting 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 and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

LSB 178

**C** 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.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord, whose voice rained down from heaven, declaring Jesus Your only Son and bidding all of us to listen to Him. In our frail flesh, wounded by burdensome crosses, known and unknown, make our hearts receptive, our minds keenly focused on Your Words of promise, and our ears opened to hearing divine truths. By Your Holy Spirit, inspire us to treasure the glory of Jesus, transfigured,

but also crucified, that we may thoroughly believe by faith the entire redemption narrative. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C** **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.

### PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI

LSB 180

**C** 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.

Sit

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

"'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

**LSB 414**

**VOLUNTARY**

"'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

setting: K. Kolander

Stand

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

*LSB 182*

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-

pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -

veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**P** Let us pray. O God the Father, source of divine nourishment, through Your Holy Word, body, and blood, You increase our faith and courage to bear our crosses in

the name of Jesus, glorified and crucified. At this Table, You unite us with the myriad of saints who have preceded us. Together, past, present, and future, we are believing heirs of Your eternal promises. We are witnesses of Christ's life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Prepare us for our eternal glory, where we will reside with You in Jerusalem, our eternal home.

**G Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

**P** God the Father bless you as chosen sons and daughters—witnesses of Christ's glory. May the vivid transfiguration of Jesus flood you with light and life.

Through His cross, may He grant you endurance and faithfulness in living lives filled with unending grace and mercy. In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G Amen.**

## CLOSING 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.

Text: Latin, c. 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt., Tune: John Goss, 1800–80, Text and tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

arr. R. Hughes

# NOTES

## **Acknowledgements**

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.*

*Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

*Opening Sentences from "Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain" by Jaroslav J. Vajda. © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"- setting: R. Schultz; tune: Ratisbon, J. Werner © 2016 Concordia Publishing House; "O Wondrous Type, O Vision Fair"- setting: R. Mackie; Tune: Deo Gracias, 15th century English © 1983 Concordia Publishing House; " Beautiful Savior"- arr. P. Davis; tune: Silesian,, 19th century folk melody © 1999 Lorenz Publishing Co.; "Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here"- setting: K. Kolander; tune: Potsdam, J.S. Bach © 2016 Concordia Publishing House; "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"- arr. R. Hughes; Tune: Lauda Anima, J. Goss © 2000 Lorenz Publishing Co.*