## Transfiguration of Our Lord

## ~ February 11, 2024 ~

## St. John’s & St. Peter’s

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**  Page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***C:*** ***Amen.***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

***C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.***

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

***C:*** ***Amen.***

**Gathering Hymn *“Beautiful Savior”*** Hymn #838

Vs. 1 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.

Vs. 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
 robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
 Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
 he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Vs. 3 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.

Vs. 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
 now and forevermore be thine!

 **Greeting** Page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Kyrie** Page 138

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

***C: Amen.***

**Hymn of Praise** Page 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

Spirit You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

 **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, or Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

**First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12**

*Today’s reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate the Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.*

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. **2**Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. **3**The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

**4**Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. **5**The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

**6**Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. **7**Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. **8**Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

**9**When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” **10**He responded, “You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” **11**As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. **12**Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**Psalm 50:1-6**

**1**The mighty one, God the Lord, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
**2Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God shines forth in glory. Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory.
3**Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.
**4God calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of the people.**

**5**Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.

**6The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause, for it is God who is judge. Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory.**

**Second Reading**: **2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out the ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.*

**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 clearly the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. **5**For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’s sake. **6**For it is the God who said, “Light will shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

**Gospel Acclamation**  Page 142

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the

words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Gospel**: **Mark 9:2-9**

*Mark’s gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus’ followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God’s glory manifest in the beloved Son.*

**2**Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, **3**and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could bleach them. **4**And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. **5**Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” **6**He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. **7**Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” **8**Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell on one about what they had seen, until after to Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling”***  ELW #631

Vs. 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to

 earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy

 faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion,
 pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with

 thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Vs. 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry

 troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us

 find thy promised rest. Take away the love of sinning;
 Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as

 its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Vs. 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy

 life receive; suddenly return, and never, never-

 more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing,
 serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee

 without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Vs. 4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless

 let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly

 restored in thee! Changed from glory into glory,
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

 crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise!

**Apostles’ Creed**  ELW pg. 105

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

**Prayers of the People**

 **“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

As we celebrate Christ embodied to human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns and states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for any who are sick and suffering especially

Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died (especially). Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**Peace** Page 138

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Offering *“We Give Thee but Thine Own” vs. 1*** *Hymn #686*

We give thee but thine own, what e’er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone a trust, O Lord from thee.

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, or Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving**  ELW pg. 145

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 our thanks and praise.***

**Words of Institution**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

***C:*** ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

**Lord’s Prayer** ELW pg. 145

P: Let us pray as Jesus has taught us.

***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.***

**Communion**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Sending Hymn *“We Are Marching in the Light”*** *Hymn #866*

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching)

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching, (marching, we are marching)

we are marching in the light of God.

**Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***

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