

Sunday, February 11, 2024
The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Service Theme
A GLIMPSE OF HIS TRUE GLORY

We began this worship series in the Jordan River. At his baptism, Jesus heard his Father's glorious voice: "You are my Son, whom I love" (Mark 1:11). From that day, in word and deed, Jesus began to reveal more about himself. He demonstrated the extent of his authority, power, and love. Along the way, we had an epiphany: Jesus has to be the very Son of God! Yet, Jesus looked so normal, like an ordinary carpenter or your average rabbi or just another prophet. Until today. We have traveled from the river to the mountain. Today, on the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus gives us a glimpse of his true glory. As we see him in his dazzling brilliance, the Father speaks again, this time to us: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" This final epiphany prepares us for the journey of Lent where we will witness the most glorious work that Jesus would do when he came down from this mountain.

Hymn

CW 95 How Good, Lord, to Be Here

- 1 **How good, Lord, to be here!**
Your glory fills the night;
Your face and garments, like the sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 **How good, Lord, to be here**
Your beauty to behold,
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Your messengers of old.
- 3 **Fulfiller of the past,**
Promise of things to be,
We hail your body glorified
And our redemption see.
- 4 **Before we taste of death,**
We see your kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright
And make this hill our home.
- 5 **How good, Lord, to be here!**
Yet we may not remain;
But since you bid us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.

Order of Service

Divine Service 1 (CWS p.15)

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- C:** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- C:** *(sing)* Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Amen.
- M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
- C:** *(spoken)* Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(CWS p.16)

- M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- C:** *(sing)* Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
- Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory!**
- Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**
- 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, receive our prayer.**
- Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the
Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on
earth. Glory to God, glory to God!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(CWS p. 18)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

1st Lesson

2 Kings 2:1-12a (EHV)

The prophet Elijah never tasted death but instead was taken directly to heaven. On the Mount of Transfiguration Elijah appeared with the glorious Son of God who would taste death.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

³The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?”

Then he said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

⁴Then Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here because the LORD has sent me to Jericho.”

But he said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

⁵Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?”

He said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here because the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.”

But he said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.

⁷Then fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood and watched them from a distance, while the two of them were standing at the Jordan. ⁸Elijah took his cloak, folded it together, and struck the water. The water divided to the right and to the left. Then the two of them crossed on dry land.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask me for whatever I can do for you before I am taken from you.”

Then Elisha said, “Let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.”

¹⁰He said, “You have asked for a difficult thing. If you see me being taken from you, it will surely be yours. But if not, then it will not.”

¹¹While they were walking and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire came and separated them. So Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹²Elisha was watching and crying out, “My father! My father! Israel’s chariot and its charioteers!” Then he did not see him anymore.

Psalm

2 (CW p. 65)

Refrain:

**Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Great are the works of the Lord.**

**Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?**

**The kings of the earth take their stand and the
rulers gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One.**

Refrain

**The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.**

**Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,***

**“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”
I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:***

**He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.”**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (EHV)

We cannot yet physically see what those disciples saw on the Mount of Transfiguration. But St. Paul teaches we can still see the glory of Christ's light in the gospel.

³But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. ⁴In the case of those people, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from clearly seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God's image.

⁵Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," is the same one who made light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the person of Jesus Christ.

Verse of the Day

(CWS p. 19)

Alleluia. Alleluia. A cloud covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"
Alleluia. (Mark 9:7)

Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:2-9 (EHV)

C: (sing) Glory be to you, O Lord! Glory be to you, O Lord!

Jesus gives Peter, James, and John a glimpse of his true glory.

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain where they were alone by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them.

³His clothes became radiant, dazzling white, whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. ⁴And Elijah appeared to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say because they were terrified.

⁷A cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.”

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

C: (sing) Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

Apostles Creed

(CWS p.20)

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

Hymn

CW 97 Down from the Mount of Glory

**1 Down from the mount of glory
Came Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Recall the wondrous story,
Rich gem in sacred Word.
Again your faith will view him
In double glory here;
The greater homage due him
Will in your life appear.**

**2 Transfigured, Christ, the lowly,
Stood radiant in the light,
Light found in Godhead solely,
For human eyes too bright.
Then came a voice from heaven,
Confirmed what here we see;
The words “my Son” were given
To seal his deity.**

**3 Yet mark this glory hidden!
See him the mount descend
And, by the Father bidden,
His willing footsteps bend
To seek humiliation
In deepest depths of woe,
To suffer degradation
No mind can probe or know.**

**4 Strange how his journey ended!
In love that is his fame
Our Lord again ascended
A mount—the hill of shame.
Upon the cross he proffered
Himself to agony;
His holy soul he offered
To set the guilty free.**

**5 Then hail the double glory
Of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
And let the wondrous story
Full peace and joy afford!
The holy mount acclaims him
The majesty divine;
Mount Calvary proclaims him
Redeemer—yours and mine.**

Sermon Text & Theme

Mark 9:2-9 ... Jesus' Divine Glory Is Revealed"

- 1) In the radiance of His being.
- 2) Through the testimony of the prophets.
- 3) By the declaration of His Father.

Create In Me

(CWS p.21)

C: *(sing)* Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold, uphold me with your free Spirit.

Offertory Prayer

Prayer for Transfiguration

We praise you, O Father, for the precious gift of your Son and for his glorious transfiguration on the holy mountain. Give us the firm resolve to listen to your Son, the eager readiness to believe his promises, and the joyful willingness to heed his commandments. By the sign of Moses and Elijah, show us that blessed are the dead who die in faith, for they shall know the power of Christ's resurrection and shall be "changed from glory into glory."

O God and Father, let your Holy Spirit find a dwelling in our poor bodies and transform our weak, sinful lives into the radiance of goodness, purity, and righteousness. Transform our minds, our understanding, our judgments, yes, our whole persons to reflect the mind of Christ. Take our sickness and pain, our disappointments and despair, our sorrows and mourning, our pride and anger, our selfishness and envy, our hate and fear: take all these, O Father, and transform them by the healing touch of Jesus into noble impulses, pure motives, kind thoughts, constructive deeds, high courage, and true faith.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Look on your Church, O Lord, here and in every place, and grant that we and all who bear the name of Christ may daily offer up to you the acceptable sacrifices of repentance, thanksgiving, and loving obedience. Hear our prayer, and by your mercy grant our petitions for Christ's sake. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

(CWS p.22)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

Final Prayer & Blessing

(CWS p.27)

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

or

Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn

CWS 771 I Want to Talk as a Child of the Light

**1 I want to walk as a child of the light;
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world;
The star of my life is Jesus.**

Refrain

**In him there is no darkness at all;
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**2 I want to see the brightness of God;
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path
And show me the way to the Father.**

Refrain

**3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ;
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus.**

Refrain

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

February 18 – Andrew // February 25 – Peter

Lenten Series

Baptized into His Death

St. Paul writes, “Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?” (Romans 6:3). There is a connection between our baptism and Christ’s passion. Lent is the perfect season to learn anew all that which God’s Word tells us about Baptism. We will see how we were powerfully connected in our baptism to all Christ’s saving work. We will study again what our baptism means for our daily lives. And we will rededicate ourselves to the struggle of living the new life Baptism gives. Join us for our upcoming midweek Lent series: Baptized into His Death

Ash Wednesday Pancake Dinner

You are cordially invited to attend our annual Ash Wednesday Pancake dinner at 6 pm on February 14. All are welcome, so feel free to invite friends to the dinner and service.

Sweetheart Dinner

On Sunday, February 18th, we will have our annual Sweet Hearts Spaghetti dinner after Church. This meal is meant to thank the women for all they do. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for men to help prepare and host this dinner.

Introducing Divine Word's Lent Study Challenge

Do you make time for daily personal Bible study? We all know how important it is to be in God's Word every day, yet actually establishing that habit can be challenging. Divine Word wants to help all its members create a rich and lasting habit of studying. This Lent, join your Divine Word family in the Lent Study Challenge. Grab a game board, choose a category, and try it out. When you get a Tic-Tac-Toe, you can enter the drawing for a prize. Stay tuned all throughout the Lent season for more tips, encouragement, and support.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (11) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 am Worship

We (14) 6:00 pm Pancake Dinner
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday w. Communion

Th (15) 6:00 pm Illuminé (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (16) 3:00 pm Online Women's Bible Study
4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (18) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 am Worship & Communion
12:00 pm Sweetheart Dinner
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore

Tu (20) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" Bible Info. Class
7:00 pm Elders Meeting

We (21) **7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Worship**

Th (22) 9:30 am Online Pastor's Circuit Meeting
6:00 pm Illuminé (at St. Paul's)
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (23) 4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Sa (24) 6:00 pm Lent By Candlelight

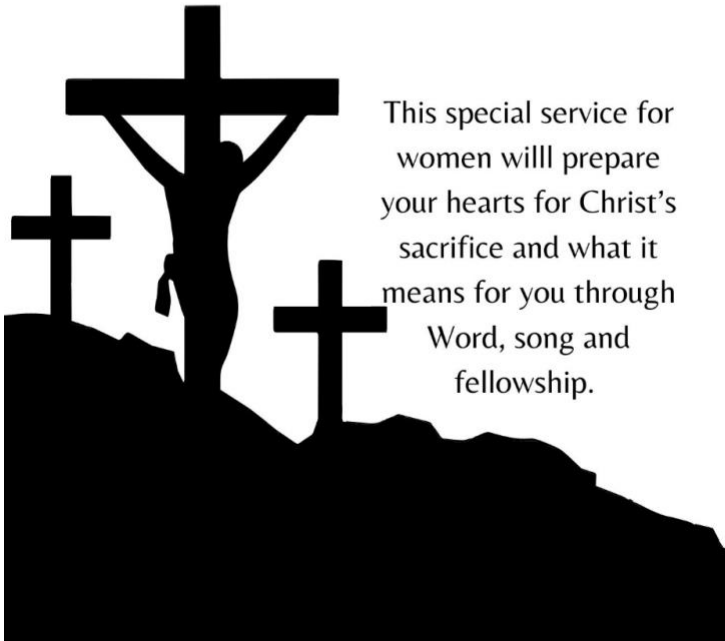
Su (25) 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Class
10:30 am Worship

You are invited to

Lent By Candlelight: The Final Words



Saturday, February 24 @ 6:00 pm



This special service for women will prepare your hearts for Christ's sacrifice and what it means for you through Word, song and fellowship.



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