

# **TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

February 15, 2026

***Please respect the sanctity of worship and turn off all cell phones.  
Thank you.***

## **For the Gathered**

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

## **Greeting – ELW 147**

(Pastor) - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**(All) - And also with you.**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Gathering Song – Jesus, the Very Thought of You – ELW 754 (vs. 1 & 4)**

Jesus, the very thought of you  
fills us with sweet delight;  
but sweeter far your face to view  
and rest within your light.

O Jesus, be our joy today;  
help us to prize your love;  
grant us at last to hear you say:  
"Come, share my home above."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

## **Confession and Forgiveness – ELW 94**

(Pastor)

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.

**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

## **Kyrie**

(Liturgist) In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**(All Sing) Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison.**

For peace between nations, faithfulness in the Church, the healing of creation, let us pray,

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison.**

For those who seek the light, those who thirst for mercy, and all who long for God, let us pray,

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison**

For those who are hungry, grieving or in pain, abandoned or afraid, let us pray,

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison**

Help, save, comfort and defend us oh God,

**Amen.**

## **Canticle of Praise – ELW 148**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength,  
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor and glory and might  
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading – Exodus 24: 12-18**

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the LORD” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look,

Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup> The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup> 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 Israelites. <sup>18</sup> Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 2**

<sup>1</sup> Why are the nations <sup>1</sup> in an uproar?

**Why do the peoples mutter <sup>1</sup> empty threats?**

<sup>2</sup> Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes <sup>1</sup> plot together,

**against the LORD and against the <sup>1</sup> LORD's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup> "Let us break their <sup>1</sup> yoke," they say;

**"let us cast off their <sup>1</sup> bonds from us."**

<sup>4</sup> God whose throne is in heav- <sup>1</sup> en is laughing;

**the LORD holds them <sup>1</sup> in derision.**

<sup>5</sup> Then in wrath God <sup>1</sup> speaks to them,

**and in rage fills <sup>1</sup> them with terror.**

<sup>6</sup> "As for me, I have anoint- <sup>1</sup> ed my king

**upon Zion, my <sup>1</sup> holy mountain."**

<sup>7</sup> Let me announce the decree <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,

**who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- <sup>1</sup> gotten you.**

<sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for <sup>1</sup> your inheritance

**and the ends of the earth for <sup>1</sup> your possession.**

<sup>9</sup> You shall crush them with an <sup>1</sup> iron rod

**and shatter them like a <sup>1</sup> piece of pottery."**

<sup>10</sup> And now, you <sup>1</sup> kings, be wise;

**be warned, you rulers <sup>1</sup> of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup> Submit to the <sup>1</sup> LORD with fear,

**and with trembling <sup>1</sup> bow in worship;**

<sup>12</sup>lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden <sup>1</sup> blaze of wrath.

**Happy are all who take ref- <sup>1</sup> uge in God!**

## **Epistle Reading – 2 Peter 1: 16-21**

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

<sup>16</sup>We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Message for the Young at Heart**

### **Passing of the Peace**

### **Special Music**

## **Gospel Announcement – Matthew 17: 1-9**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

### **Acclamation – ELW 151**

**(ALL SING) - Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

<sup>1</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. <sup>3</sup> Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with

him. <sup>4</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup> And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Message**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

### **Hymn of the Day – In Christ There Is No East or West – ELW 650 (vs. 1, 3, & 4)**

In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one community of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.

Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God  
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

### **Nicene Creed – ELW 104**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*(Assembly may be seated.)*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Response*

(Liturgist) – Merciful God,

**(All) – Receive our prayer.**

## **Offering**

## **Offertory - We Are An Offering – W&P 146**

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,  
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.  
We are an offering.

## **Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Great Thanksgiving – ELW 152**

**(PASTOR)** - The Lord be with you.

**(ALL)** - And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Pastor's Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love,  
that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **Our Response – ELW 153**

**(ALL SING) - Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **Lord's Prayer – ELW 154**

**(ALL) - 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.**

## **Words of Institution**

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.

## **Confession Song – Lamb of God – ELW 154**

**(ALL SING) –**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.**

**Grant us peace. Grant us peace.**

## **Distribution**

## **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

*(All who are able may stand.)*

## **Sending Song - Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty** **- ELW 533 (vs. 1, 2, & 5)**

Open now thy gates of beauty,  
Zion, let me enter there,  
where my soul in joyful duty  
waits for God who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessed is this place,  
filled with solace, light, and grace!

Gracious God, I come before thee;  
come thou also unto me;  
where we find thee and adore thee,  
there a heav'n on earth must be.  
To my heart, oh, enter thou,  
let it be thy temple now!

Speak, O God, and I will hear thee,  
let thy will be done indeed;  
may I undisturbed draw near thee  
while thou dost thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows;  
here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolek, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

*(Assembly may be seated.)*

## **Announcements**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**(ALL) - Thanks be to God.**

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**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Transfiguration of the Lord – February 15, 2026**

PASTOR	John Russell-Curry
GREETER	Chris Love
READER/ASSISTING MINISTER	Susan Gumm
USHERS	Donald Gumm
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Martin Hansen

**This Week**

TODAY	<b>10 AM</b> Worship
MONDAY	<b>10 AM</b> Council Meeting
<b>Presidents Day</b> —Church Office Closed	
WEDNESDAY	<b>10 AM</b> Ash Wednesday Service
THURSDAY	<b>11:30 AM</b> Birthday Luncheon

***Readings for Sunday, February 22***

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

***Attendance for last week 43 and via Zoom 3***

**Upcoming Events – Mark your Calendar**

**February 22 Worship Service**  
**February 22 Lenten Bible Study**  
**March 1 Worship Service**  
**March 1 Lenten Bible Study**

**Prayers for healing:**

For family, friends and students of Joel Know who passed away February 2; Dave Bettis; Gleneda Muralt; Dorothy Woody; Rosie Sullivan; Eric Smith; Gleneda Muralt's niece, Shereida; Nan Dailey; Kimberly Castillo's daughter Jillian and mother-in-law Lupe; Pam Andersen; Pastor John Russell-Curry and his family; Warren Westerberg; Sylvia Poupard; Jeane & David Hetland; Annie Sofranek; David Cherf; and people who are ill around the world.

We lift prayers for our Benevolence of the Month, **Scholarship Fund** and for our Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop, **Jeff Johnson**.

**SADNESS AND CONDOLENCES:** On January 28, Reverend Sylvia Mueller (pastor in Turlock; active in Conference and Synod affairs) unexpectedly died - shocking all friends, family, and parishioners. A memorial is being planned for February 21.