

# **Transfiguration Of Our Lord** **Sunday**

February 11, 2024

## **For the Gathered**

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

## **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.

## **Gathering Song – Beautiful Savior - ELW 838**

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.

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.

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.

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

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904

*(All those who are able may stand)*

## **Confession and Forgiveness – ELW 95**

(Pastor) God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

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

**(All) 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.**

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 – ELW 147**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

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.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Canticle of Praise – ELW 149**

**(Liturgist)** – This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**(SING) 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.**

(All may be seated.)

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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 that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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."

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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; be silent."

<sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>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, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>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.” <sup>10</sup>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.” <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 50: 1-6**

<sup>1</sup>The mighty one, God the <sup>1</sup> LORD, has spoken;  
**calling the earth from the rising of the sun <sup>1</sup> to its setting.**

<sup>2</sup>Out of Zion, perfect <sup>1</sup> in its beauty,  
**God shines <sup>1</sup> forth in glory.**

<sup>3</sup>Our God will come and will <sup>1</sup> not keep silence;  
**with a consuming flame before, and round about a <sup>1</sup> raging storm.**

<sup>4</sup>God calls the heavens and the earth <sup>1</sup> from above  
**to witness the judgment <sup>1</sup> of the people.**

<sup>5</sup>“Gather before me my <sup>1</sup> loyal followers,  
**those who have made a covenant with me and sealed <sup>1</sup> it with sacrifice.”**

<sup>6</sup>The heavens declare the rightness <sup>1</sup> of God’s cause,  
**for it is God <sup>1</sup> who is judge.**

## **Epistle Reading – 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6**

*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out 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.*

<sup>3</sup>Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who

said, "Let light 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 Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

## **Special Music**

## **Gospel Announcement – Mark 9: 2-9**

*(All those 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>2</sup>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, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>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." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(All may be seated.)*

## **Message**

## **Hymn of the Day – How Good, Lord, to Be Here** **- ELW 315 (vs. 1, 2, & 5)**

How good, Lord, to be here!  
Your glory fills the night;  
your face and garments, like the sun,  
shine with unborrowed light.

How good, Lord, to be here!  
your beauty to behold  
where Moses and Elijah stand,  
your messengers of old.

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.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

*(All who are able may stand.)*

### **Nicene Creed – ELW 104**

**(ALL)**

**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) -God of grace,

**(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.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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 – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light - ELW 815**

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.

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*

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*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Text © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

(Assembly may be seated.)

## **Announcements**

# **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

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

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