



“¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.”

Matthew 17:1-2

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Transfiguration of Our Lord – February 26, 2017

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*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance card attached to the front of the bulletin. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION

Transfiguration of Our Lord – February 26, 2017

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 the mount of transfiguration 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.

PRELUDE: *Beautiful Savior* – Robert Lau

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who stretches out the heavens,
who sends light to the nations,
who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

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

Loving God,
**we confess that we have turned from your way
to follow our own ways.
Forgive us for the times
we have spoken or acted too quickly;
we have not spoken or acted at all;
we have hurt those closest to us;
we have hurt those we have yet to know;
we have thought more about ourselves than others;
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,
so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.
Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.
God's love never runs out.
God never tires of calling us beloved children.
Hear God say to you now:
Your sins are forgiven,
for the sake of + Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG #671: Shine, Jesus, Shine**

***GREETING**

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

***GLORY TO GOD**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**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.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The 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. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses 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 99

*The cantor sings the refrain and all repeat it. The congregation sings the **bold** verses.*

Pro - claim the great - ness of the LORD;
wor - ship up - on God's ho - ly hill.

¹The LORD is king; let the | people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

²The LORD, | great in Zion,
is high a- | bove all peoples.

³**Let them confess God's name, which is | great and awesome;**
God is the | Holy One.

⁴**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;**
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob. **R**

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- | fore God's footstool;
God is the | Holy One.

⁶Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your | name, O LORD,
they called upon you, and you | answered them,

⁷**you spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud;**
they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.

⁸**O LORD our God, you answered | them indeed;**
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their | evil deeds.

⁹Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's | holy hill;
for the LORD our God is the | Holy One. **R**

SECOND 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.

¹⁶For 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. ¹⁷For 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.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So 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. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because 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.

GOSPEL HYMN: *We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding

1. We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and ho - ly place,
 2. Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the flesh-joined Word,
 where we wait with hope and long - ing for some to - ken of God's grace.
 Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the heaven - ly voice is heard.
 Here we pray for new as - sur - ance that our faith is not in vain,
 Eyes and hearts be - hold with won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet:
 search - ing like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 Christ with gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.

***GOSPEL READING: Matthew 17:1-9**

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to his disciples in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As 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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Je - sus on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in glo - ry blaz - ing;
Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E - li - jah speak - ing.
Swift the cloud of glo - ry came, God pro - claim - ing in its thun - der him,
This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets sing be - fore him,

let us, if we dare to speak, join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.
All the proph - ets and the law shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:
Je - sus as the Son by name! Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der:
first and last and on - ly One. All cre - a - tion shall a - dore him!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**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 INTERCESSION**

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

God of Moses, you revealed your glory on Mount Sinai. Reveal your glory through missionaries and campus ministries. Shine your light through their acts of caring, justice, and mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Eve, you create humankind in your image. Cultivate in us a passion for your good creation. Transform our daily routines so that our stewardship reveals your image. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of David, you equip shepherds to care for your people. Where leaders rule by fear, transform their hearts with compassion and mercy. Send advocates for peace. We pray for your justice in every land. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Naomi, you care for the widow. Be with all who mourn. Connect children in foster care with loving families. Protect refugees. Heal the sick and strengthen caretakers, especially Denise, Sally, Bill, Raymond, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Jane, David & Ellen, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Zechariah, you invite us to worship. Teach us to sing your praise in all places and in all circumstances. Embolden us to proclaim the joy of your faithfulness with our whole being. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Lazarus, you resurrect the dead. Deepen our trust in the resurrection promise. Grant us peace as we grapple with what it means to die and live in you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN #838: *Beautiful Savior

All stand for the final stanza as the gifts are brought forward.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

receive the gifts we bring,

ourselves, our time, and our possessions.

Through this meal unite us as your body,

shining with the light of your justice and mercy;

for the sake of him who gave himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

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.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O holy God:
 you are the Life and Light of all.
 By your powerful word you created all things.
 Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.
 Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
 He is your Light, shining in our darkness
 and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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.

Remembering, therefore,
 his preaching and healing,
 his dying and rising,
 and his promise to come again,
 we await that day when all the universe
 will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.
Come. Be filled with light and life.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The area of cups bordered by green tape has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

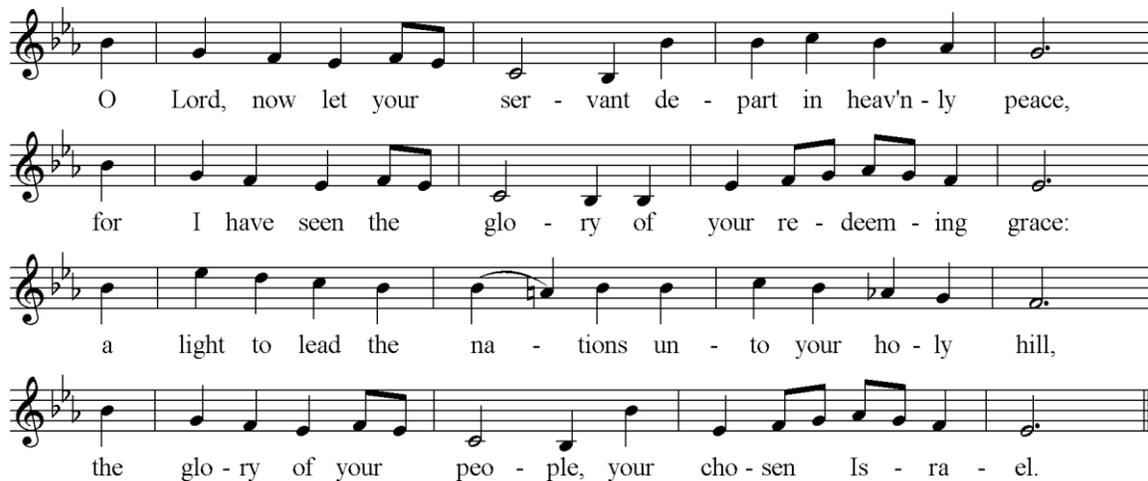
COMMUNION HYMN #834: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

Amen.

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n - ly peace,
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O Morning Star, fair and bright,
you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.

You are our dearest treasure.

Go with us now—

today, tomorrow, every day—

that we tell the story of your never-ending love

and sing your praise both now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care:

As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread,
assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament.

In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament,
and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence
through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,

and shine brightly on your path;

and the blessing of almighty God,

the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

***SENDING SONG #318: Alleluia, Song of Gladness**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Alleluia, Song of Gladness – Robert J. Powell

8:00 am

Assisting Minister: Dave Knauff
Communion Assistant:
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher: Clarence Strabel
Attendance Last Week: 63
Weekly Budgeted Expense: \$ 3,185.02
YTD Budgeted Expense \$ 25,480.14
YTD Actual Expense \$ 23, 563.73

10:30 am

Assisting Minister: Missy Kramer
Communion Assistant: Valerie Cardinal
Acolyte:
Lector:
Usher: Matt Claus
Attendance Last Year: 61
Last Week's General Giving: \$ 6,094.87
Last Week's Designated Giving: \$ 396.06
YTD Receipts: \$26,175.55

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