



Grace Lutheran Church

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TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

February 19, 2023

Welcome: We are glad that you are here or are watching our worship service online. May you be blessed through this time of worship. We pray you find today's service a source of encouragement and strength. *Offerings are received at the door as you enter or leave. Please take a moment to complete an attendance registration slip found in the pew rack and return it in the offering plates also.*

Prayer Requests are always welcome. To have someone included in our prayers during worship, please call the pastor or church office or write down the request and give it to the pastor.

Lectionary Summary: The Transfiguration confirms “*the prophetic word ... to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place*” (2 Peter 1:19). The divine glory of Jesus is manifested in the word of His apostles, who were “*eyewitnesses of his majesty*” (2 Peter 1:16). “*He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun*” (Matt. 17:2). Moses and Elijah witnessed the fulfillment of the Old Testament in this Lord Jesus, and the Father testified concerning Him: “*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased*” (Matt. 17:5). By His own blood, shed on the cross, Jesus makes and seals the new covenant with us. Hence, “*the appearance of the glory of the LORD*” is no longer “*like a devouring fire*” (Ex. 24:17), but it is graciously revealed in His own body. As “*Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel*” went up the mountain with Moses and “*beheld God, and ate and drank*” (Ex. 24:9, 11), we also behold the Lord our God in Christ Jesus, and we abide with Him as we eat and drink His body and blood at the altar.

Order of Worship
Service of Prayer and Preaching LSB260

Prelude

Welcome and Greeting Time

Ringing of the Bell

♪ **Opening Hymn: “’Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”**

LSB 414

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

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Stand

Opening Versicles

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;
C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- P** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- P** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C **Teach me Your paths.**
- P** Sanctify us in Your truth.

C Your Word is truth.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

♪Canticle: “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

LSB 873 sts. 1, 3

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise; Triumph o’er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

3 Visit then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine, Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, Shining to the perfect day.

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Collect of the Day

P O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Readings From Holy Scripture

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:8–18

⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.” ⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. ¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with

you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.” ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst 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. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Handbell Anthem: “Shine Jesus Shine” (10:30 a.m.)

Epistle

2 Peter 1:16–21

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 were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, 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 white as light. ³And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁵He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified.

⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” ⁸And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. ⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

♪ Sermon Hymn: “O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair”

LSB 413

- 1 O wondrous type! O vision fair Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, Where brighter than the sun He glows!
- 2 With Moses and Elijah nigh The incarnate Lord holds converse high;
And from the cloud the Holy One Bears record to the only Son.
- 3 With shining face and bright array Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above Who joy in God with perfect love.
- 4 And faithful hearts are raised on high By this great vision's mystery,
For which in joyful strains we raise The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Stand

Δ5 O Father, with the eternal Son And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace To see Thy glory face to face.

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Sermon “Something More Sure”

Pastor Buchhorn

♪ Hymn of Response: “Beautiful Savior”

LSB 537 sts. 1, 3, 4

- 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.
- 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.

**4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!**

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Stand

Prayer

LSB 265

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- C** 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.

Collect for the Word

- P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives on reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Morning Prayer

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Blessing

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** Amen.

Sit

♪Closing Hymn: “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

LSB 417

- 1 Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

- 2 Alleluia, thou resoundest, True Jerusalem and free;
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,
But by Babylon's sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.
- 3 Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.
- 4 Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

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NEWS AND NOTES

WE REJOICE with the following members of Grace who are celebrating this week.

BIRTHDAYS: Cynthia Rethwisch, William Haisch, Brian Nelson, Marjorie Meyer, Elaine Saul, Rachel Holland, Melissa Pickinpaugh, Hallie Heithold, Keith Knudsen, Derek Schardt, Terry Janke, Ruth Victor, Mardelle Brudigan, Kayla Reed, Nicholas Forsyth, Virginia Nelson, Lyndon Jensen, Easton Endicott & Liam Blohm

ANNIVERSARIES: Jerry & Deb Jensen and Delvin & Mardelle Mikkelsen

LAST WEEK our offerings were \$14,634.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: All are invited to join us for our continuing study of the Sermon on the Mount. The class meets in the basement at 9:15 following Sunday School opening.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS: There will be no class this week due to the Ash Wednesday morning worship service. Join us Wednesday, March 1 at 9:00 a.m. as we continue our study on the book of Ezra.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: “The Fish-and-Bread Sign” is the topic for the lesson this week. A crowd of at least five thousand men, plus women and children, gather to hear Jesus preach. When challenged to find a way to feed the hungry crowd, the disciples question how this is possible. Using just five barley loaves and two fish, Jesus feeds them all, with abundant leftovers. Discuss, “How does God provide food for His people today?”

LUTHERAN HOUR: "It Begins with Who I Am" -- Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy -- The desert is a place of testing. The desert places of our lives are like that, too. Hear the "Lutheran Hour" message on KTCH AM next Sunday at 7:30 am.

MIDWEEK CLASSES: Starting this Wednesday, February 22nd, all Midweek Classes will be moved to start at 7pm or immediately following our Lent service on Wednesday evening. This change will again run through the end of March with no Midweek scheduled for the Wednesday of Holy Week, April 5th.

COLLEGE SUNDAY NIGHT DINNERS: We invite all college students to come join us for our Sunday Night Dinners and Bible Study down at Cup of Grace each Sunday starting at 6:30pm. For our church members if you would like to sign up to host a meal you can find the schedule on the southwest church door, and we plan for at least 10 students each week. If you aren't a student but would like to join us, please do so as well. We would love to connect with as many people as possible!

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS entitled “Man of Sorrows, People of Joy” are available at the entrances. These devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministry help remind us of how God through Jesus reconciled the world to Himself. The same devotions are available through email or by using the LHM app. Go to LHM.org for more information.

LENTEN FELLOWSHIP meals will begin March 1 at 5:15 p.m. Join us each Wednesday in March for this time of fellowship and refreshment. Thank you to our various organizations which have sponsored one of the meals.

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: Did You Know: Researchers at the National Science Foundation discovered that people have between 12,000 and 60,000 thoughts each day – 80% of them negative. What’s your percentage? If it’s too high, don’t be dismayed – do something about it! It’s possible to intentionally change your automatic thoughts and as a result your mood, mental wellness, and relationships will all improve. God’s word encourages us to “...take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 10:15) You can do this! Regardless of where you live, Lutheran Family Service counselors are here to coach you, from a perspective that is consistent with your faith. Lutheran Family Service - www.LutheranFamilyService.org.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

PASTORS: Pastor Michael Buchhorn, Senior Pastor

Pastor’s phone: 402.833.1071 Email: pastorbuchhorn@gmail.com

Pastor Erik Christensen, Associate Pastor

Pastor’s phone: 979.204.0752 Email: pastorerik@gracewayne.com

Pastor Emeritus: Pastor Carl Lilienkamp

ELDER ON DUTY: Mike Heithold (8:00) Josh Ruwe (10:30)

ACOLYTES: Dylan Jensen & Maddux Heithold (8:00)

Emma Heithold & Myles Tiedtke (10:30)

LAY READER: Kathy Johnson (8:00) Galen Wiser (10:30)

GREETERS: Lowell & Kathy Johnson (8:00)

Galen & Kathy Wiser (10:30)

FISHERS OF KIDS PRESCHOOL: Teacher – Keila Olson – 402.584.2257

Director – Sara Ruwe – 402.369.2661

LUTHERAN HOUR SPONSOR: Fauneil Bennett in memory of Evan

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

TODAY

8:00 am. Worship
9:15 am. Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 am. Worship
7:30 pm. Sunday Night Dinner

MONDAY

6:00 pm. Choir

WEDNESDAY

9:00 am. Ash Wednesday Worship/Communion

5:00 pm. Bell Choir

6:15 pm. Ash Wednesday Worship/Communion

7:00 pm. Midweek

SATURDAY

4:00 pm. Family Communion

NEXT SUNDAY

8:00 am. Worship/Communion

9:15 am. Bible Study & Sunday School

10:30 am. Worship/Communion

7:30 pm. Sunday Night Dinner

The Season of Lent



The Season of Lent: Ash Wednesday, February 22, begins the season of Lent. Lent is a season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope. We pray that our dear Father in heaven might richly bless this Lenten season for us so that we may

come to Easter with glad hearts. **We will observe Ash Wednesday with Communion Worship Services at 9:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.**

Imposition of Ashes: On Ash Wednesday there will be the opportunity for the optional imposition of ashes. In the Bible following his sin Adam was told “for dust you are and to dust you will return.” Dust or ashes became a symbol of mortality and death. In the Old Testament, being covered in ashes and wearing sackcloth was an outward sign that a person was in mourning. In the Christian church it became a custom to observe the beginning of the season of Lent with penitents being marked by ashes. It is from this custom we get the name “Ash Wednesday.” These ashes are in the shape of a cross, as a reminder that through the cross of Christ our sins are forgiven. Those desiring to be marked by ashes as a part of your Ash Wednesday worship are invited to come to the Altar area for the imposition of ashes prior to the beginning of Ash Wednesday services or after the conclusion of the service.

Ask Those Who Heard: As Jesus was on trial before the Jewish High Priest, He was questioned about his disciples and his teaching. In response Jesus told him, “Ask those who heard me what I said to them; they know what I said” John 18:20. For our midweek worship services this year we will do as our Lord instructed and spend time asking the eyewitnesses to the Passion of our Lord what they saw and heard concerning Jesus. We will particularly focus on the Passion of our Lord as recorded in the gospel of Luke who recorded the testimony of the eyewitnesses (Lk. 1:2). Join us as we ask Judas who betrayed Him, Peter who denied Him, the officials who judged Him and others. May we grow in our understanding of Christ’s sacrifice for us and believe the testimony concerning Jesus’ identity.