#### ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Wheatfield, New York

Transfiguration Sunday February 19, 2023



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**, welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

#### AS WE GATHER

In one sense, the Transfiguration of Our Lord provides a sort of climax to the first part of the story of Jesus in the liturgical year. In the glorious vision, Moses and Elijah appear as if to prove that everything written in the Bible in the Law and the Prophets has come true in the advent and appearance of Jesus, "true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary" (explanation of the Second Article). Yet this climactic event is not yet the true and complete climax of the story, but a transition now into the season of Lent and the road to the true climax: the cross of Good Friday, the resurrection of Easter, His ascension into heaven, and the sending of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. There is so much more to tell. This brief glimpse of glory and Peter's eyewitness account is to give us the strength and encouragement now to bring the story to completion in us, that we become witnesses in possession of the glorious hope of eternal life through the forgiveness of our sins.

# **WELCOME & INVOCATION**

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

- Praise the LORD, all nations!
- **C** Extol Him, all peoples!
- **P** For great is His steadfast love toward us,
- and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
- P Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
- **C** bring an offering, and come into His courts!

# BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF THE STARS OF THE MORNING

LSB 400



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt. Tune: James P. Harding, 1850-1911, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

- That we may enter into the holy presence of Christ, let us confess our sins that we may be made the righteousness of God.
- We confess to You, almighty God, our blindness to Your glory and our reluctance to seek Your grace. We have sinned against You and our neighbors by our own fault in both our thoughtless actions as well as the good we have failed to do. For the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, forgive us. Renew our hearts, enliven us in spirit, and let us see Your glorious mercy.
- "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." In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

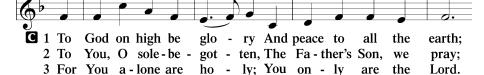


C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204

Mark 10:47 LSB 204





Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- Let us pray. 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.

#### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:8-18

<sup>8</sup>And 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."

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and 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. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

<sup>12</sup>The 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." <sup>13</sup>So

This is the Word of the Lord.

# Thanks be to God.

 $\mathbf{C}$ 

days and forty nights.

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, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from

Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to

the elders. "Wait here for us until we return to you.

And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the

cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD

dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six

the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on

the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the

mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty

days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of

has a dispute, let him go to them."

God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

#### NEW TESTAMENT READING

<sup>16</sup>For 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. <sup>17</sup>For 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," <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have

<sup>1</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter and

James, and John his brother, 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 white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there

appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And 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." <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud

This is the Word of the Lord.

#### $\mathbf{C}$ Thanks be to God.

Matthew 17:1-9

2 Peter 1:16-21

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. <sup>7</sup>But 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.

<sup>9</sup>And 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 our Lord.

# Praise to You, O Christ.

#### NICENE CREED

**HOLY GOSPEL** 

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

 $\mathbf{C}$ 

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.



Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-87 Text and tune: Public domain

#### **SERMON**

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for revealing to the world Your goodness and mercy in the gift of Your beloved Son. Being of one substance with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, He has revealed Your glory chiefly in His sacrifice on the cross for the life of the world. Make us certain that because He died and lives again, we and all who trust in Him are now given eternal life in the forgiveness of our sin. Lord, in Your mercy,

#### C hear our prayer.

By Your Word and Spirit, rule and govern Your holy Church throughout the world and her pastors and ministers in order that we may be preserved in the pure doctrine of Your saving Word and may be strengthened in faith and love. Send forth laborers into Your harvest that Your kingdom be extended to all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

# **C** hear our prayer.

**P** Grant Your help and protection to all who are in the authority of government, bless our country that righteousness and peace abound that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

P Comfort with Your Holy Spirit all who are in trouble, want, sickness, or any adversity, that they may receive healing of body and mind and peace in their souls. Bless all medical professionals and emergency workers and all who supply the needy in any way. Lord, in Your mercy,

# **C** hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all Your prophets and apostles who have faithfully delivered Your Word through the ages, and for all Your witnesses who have gone before us and are now with You in Your divine presence. Keep us in the sure faith and hope of Your Word that we may one day look upon our Savior face-to-face in the glory of eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

# C hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

# C Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father,

**To our visitors:** The **Lord's Supper** is celebrated at St. John in the confession that not only bread and wine, but Jesus Christ's very body and blood are given to us to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our faith in Him and our union (comm*union*) with one another. Our Lord invites to His table all those who believe His words, repent of all sin, and set aside all refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. *If this is your first time at St John or have not been instructed about the Lord's Supper, we ask that you speak to the Pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper* 

everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 208



■ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.





Text: Stephen P. Starke

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

- **P** Taught by our LORD and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

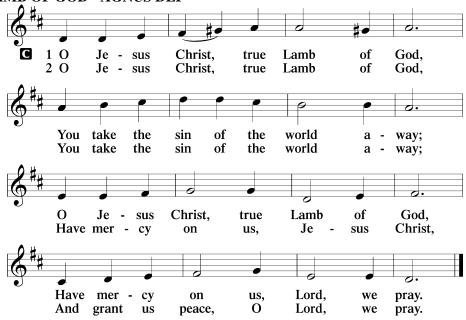
# PEACE OF THE LORD - PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

#### LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI

John 1:29 LSB 210



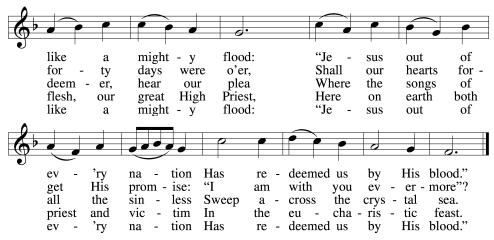
Text: Stephen P. Starke

### **DISTRIBUTION**

**ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS** 

LSB 821





Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87 Text and tune: Public domain



LSB 537





Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904 Tune: Silesian, 19th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

#### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

# **BENEDICTION**

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
  The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
  The Lord look upon you with favor and 

  → give you peace.
- C Amen.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Matthew writes that after the transfiguration, "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." Because we know about our Lord's resurrection, we cannot keep silent, but during the season of Lent, which begins this Wednesday, we shall mute our liturgical praises and refrain from singing our alleluias until our Easter celebration. Let us sing our farewell to alleluia as we conclude our worship today.

# HYMN: "ALLELUIA, SONG OF GLADNESS"

LSB 417

Congregation sings stanzas 1,2 and 4; Choir sings stanza 3.
Bells will continue to play after the 4<sup>th</sup> stanza until all the banners are placed in the box.
Then the congregation will exit in silence.



Text: Latin, c. 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; Tune: John Goss, 1800-80; Text and tune: Public domain

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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