



TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

MARCH 2, 2025

PRELUDE

Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair (arr. Boyd Bacon)

Jazz Team

WELCOME

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In honesty before God and one another, we acknowledge our sin and recall the cleansing and renewing power of God's promises in baptism. The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

C **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Thy Strong Word (ELW 511) vss. 1, 3, 5

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
at thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank thee,
while thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!
- 3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
bright with thine own holiness,
glorious now, we press toward glory,
and our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!
- 5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King,

Almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks,

We praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father;

Receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit

In the glory of God the Father. Amen *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed

our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

R Word of God. Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 99

R ¹The Lord is king; let the people tremble. The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

C ²The Lord, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

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

C ⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

R ⁵Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

C 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,

R ⁷you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

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

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

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside.

¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old

covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. ^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

R Word of God. Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me, will not walk in darkness,

Those who follow me will have the light of life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia, I am the light of the world.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th chapter.

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

GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from

the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Erin Heidelberger

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of Light (Dakota Road)

Refrain

The Lord of light is my salvation.

Whom shall I fear?

He's the source of life.

1. **Though wars may rage and
pain surrounds you,
your heart will hope.
He's the source of life. *Refrain***

2. **Wait, be still.
God's strong arm keep you.
Wait, be strong.
He's the source of life.**

3. **For in the day of trouble,
He will keep me safe.
Though enemies surround me,
I will sing to the Lord. *Refrain***

NEW MEMBER WELCOME:

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation. A congregation is not a building, but is the people, the body of Christ in the world.

APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C 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.**

P To our new members, I ask you - do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's faithful people here in this place? If so, please respond, "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

M "I do and I ask God to help and guide me."

P To the whole congregation, I ask you - do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ? If so, please respond, "We do and we ask God to help and guide us."

C We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

P The Holy Spirit has called and gathered you to this place. Through Jesus Christ, you have been made members of the body of Christ. Here you will be nurtured with the proclamation of God's Word and live in community, sharing your gifts, time, talents, and resources. We give

thanks to God for you, celebrating that you are joining the body of Christ that is the First Lutheran congregation. And so we pray this prayer of blessing:

Gracious Lord, through the work of your Holy Spirit, you have called, gathered, and enlightened us in true faith. We thank you for the many gifts and talents that these new members bring to the work of this congregation. Continue to speak your gospel promises into our lives as we strive together to make Jesus Christ known in our community and the world. Bless all you have gathered, that we may in turn be a blessing to others. All this we pray in the name of Christ and for his sake,

C Amen.

P Let us welcome these friends in Christ to this community of faith.

C We welcome you as fellow members of the Body of Christ and into the mission we share. Claimed at the font, forgiven at Christ's table, and strengthened by Christ's word, we go together to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS

All: Sing as opening and closing of the prayer:

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

In our prayers with recent concerns: Doris Bushard, Fred Ohles, and Michael Dalton. *Those with ongoing concerns:* Elaine Kruse, Pastor Bill Peterson, Mary Brass, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Gloria Van Ackeren, and Tracy Troutman. *Those who are part of our homebound community:* Sylvia Kempf, M. Joyce Hansen, Donna Nelson, Cindy Schuster, Betty Miller, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Ralph Hayden, Rod Price and Margrett Wehland.

PEACE OF CHRIST IS SHARED

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

NOISY OFFERING

Friends of Pioneers Park Nature Center

MUSIC OFFERING

Now God Be Praised (arr. B. Bacon)

P To God be the glory.

C **Amen.**

OFFERTORY HYMN

1. **Oh, wondrous image, vision fair
of glory that the church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows,
Where brighter than the sun he glows!**

2. **O Father, with the eternal Son,
And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray you, bring us by your grace
To see your glory face to face.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C **God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed... *(here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might,

Heav'n 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

P We pray in confidence in the words Jesus gave us:

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation

P We are here because Jesus has called us... These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD

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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart (R. Kreutz/ arr. D. Cherwien)

COMMUNION HYMNS

How Good, Lord, to Be Here! (ELW 315)

1 **How good, Lord, to be here!**

Your glory fills the night;

your face and garments, like the sun,

shine with unborrowed light.

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

3 **Fulfiller of the past**
 and hope of things to be,
 we hail your body glorified
 and our redemption see.

4 **Before we taste of death,**
 we see your kingdom come;
 we long to hold the vision bright
 and make this hill our home.

5 **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.

Alleluia, Song of Gladness (ELW 318)

1 **Alleluia, song of gladness,**
 voice of joy that cannot die;
 alleluia is the anthem
 ever dear to choirs on high;
 in the house of God abiding
 thus they sing eternally.

2 Alleluia you are sounding,
true Jerusalem and free;
alleluia, joyful mother,
bring us to your jubilee;
here by Babylon's sad waters
mourning exiles still 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 shall flow.

4 In our hymns we pray with longing:
Grant us, blessed Trinity,
at the last to keep glad Easter
with the faithful saints on high;
there to you forever singing
alleluia joyfully.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion and send you in love.

C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Shine, Jesus, Shine (ELW 671)

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine,

Fill this land with the Father's glory;

Blaze, Spirit Blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;

Send forth your Word, Lord and let there be light!

1. **Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain***

2. **As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me: *Refrain***

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live in hope.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Sent Forth by Blessing (arr. John Turner)

Lead Pastor: Erin Heidelberger

Associate Pastor: Andrew Kitzing

Live Streaming: Jim Overcash

Jazz Team

saxophone: Kristi Fisher, Bob Schoettger

trumpet: RJ Metteer, Jay Sears, Alex Hinton

trombone: Bryce Anderson

baritone: Tony Anderson, Spencer Janssen, Malcolm Pfister

drums: Martha Tanner

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