# Transfiguration of Our Lord

# March 2, 2025

PRE-SERVICE VIDEO - play during prelude & candle-lighting

## **WELCOME**

Worship leader, please introduce yourself and welcome people online and in person.

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Out of respect and in the spirit of truth, we acknowledge that we gather in community on land which is Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We honour the Blackfoot people past, present and future, and the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III. May our actions and choices demonstrate open hearts, kindness, and compassion towards all who call this place home.

## **COMMUNITY LIFE**

Congregational Call Meeting today. Following coffee fellowship downstairs, everyone is invited to move back up to the sanctuary to sign for an accurate count of voting members.

Weekly Lenten Bible Study begins tomorrow morning at 9:30 am in the upper fireside room.

Our pancake supper is on Tuesday, March 4, at 5 pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the place of welcome for opportunities to help out if you can. Everyone is welcome, bring friends and family.

Ash Wednesday service will be held on March 5 at 2 pm with Pastor Erin.

#### INTRODUCTION

This year's long Season of Epiphany began with the glorious and radiant light of a brand new star that led ancient wise ones to a Newborn King. We come full circle today in Jesus revealed as the pure and brilliant light of God. Light that shines on a mountain top; light that shines into the darkness of our world; light that the darkness cannot overcome.

The voice of God speaks once more echoing the words at Jesus' baptism: this is my Son! And then the light fades. The mountaintop is left behind for the valley and the journey to the cross. And while in our world's estimation, glory is defined in brilliant light and in mountaintop experiences; in God's love and grace, glory is redefined and best revealed in the glory of the Crucified One for the life of all the world.

We take a moment to open our hearts and minds for worship.

## **GATHERING LITANY** (based on Psalm 99, Luke 9, John 1)

One Proclaim the greatness of the Lord, and worship upon God's holy hill. The Lord is king; the people tremble. Two One The Lord is enthroned upon the wings of angels and all the earth guakes. Two The Lord is high above all peoples. One Let us confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One. Two One Moses and Aaron among your priests who call upon your name, O Lord, they called upon you, and you answered them. You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud. Two One Jesus took Peter, James and John to the mountain to pray, and the glory of the Lord shone upon the mountain top; the Son of God ablaze in holy, radiant light. Two One Proclaim the greatness of the Lord, and worship upon God's holy hill Two For where there is light, there is life — ALL the Son is the light and life of all! Alleluia!

"Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord" (v 1 & 2) -



#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

Blessed be the God of the stable and of the hillside, the God of the riverbank, the banquet hall, and the church; who comes to us in unexpected places and times filling the world with joy and life.

Let us confess our sins, trusting in God's forgiveness and grace.

## Silence is kept for reflection.

Radiant God,

we confess we do not comprehend your glory;
we fear your light shining in our world.
Our hearts and minds are veiled to your promises
of life and love and healing.
We turn away from you and one another
and become wearied by the weight of the trouble that surrounds us.

Awaken us again by your grace.

Open our eyes to see and our ears to hear.

Shine in our hearts that we might live boldly in your promises, deeper in trust and faith; serving you on the mountain and in the valley and in the everyday; through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

People of God we hear this good news!
In our darkness there is light.
In our fear; there is grace; in our world of pain where evil holds us captive, there is healing and freedom and forgiveness in Jesus, who descends the mountain to rise on the cross in life for all.

This is the Good News of the Gospel.

Thanks be to God! Amen!

## "Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord" v 3

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place. He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace. No work too hard for him; in faith receive from him. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

It is our delight to pray. Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Shine the light of your truth from the mountaintop and into our hearts. Transform us by the grace of your Son, that we might carry your light with us and into the world; through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## FIRST READING Exodus 34:29-35

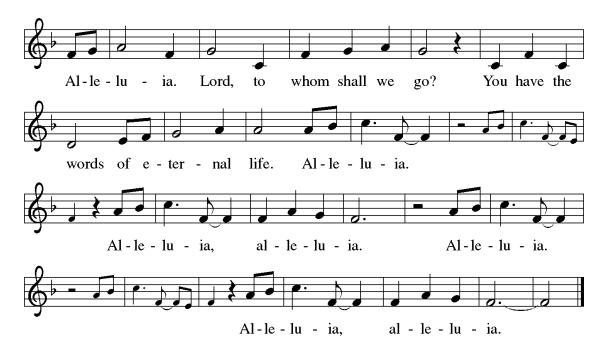
Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; 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, 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.

This is what God is saying to us today.

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL VERSE "Alleluia" ELW Setting 8, p. 188 – piano, bass, guitar



## GOSPEL Luke 9:28-36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 9th Chapter Glory to you, O Lord.

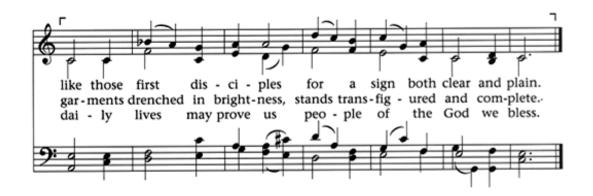
Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 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. 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. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" 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.

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you O Christ** 

## **SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" – Sing! 126 (tune of ELW 526)





#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Walking in the light of your grace and love, we pray for the church, all those in need, and the whole creation.

## A brief silence

O God of glory and grace, shine your light of transformation on your people and on your church. Strengthen us in faith and joy and send us out to witness to the light of your love in all the world. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Light of creation, shine your light into the beauty of your creation. Heal the wounds of our earth and restore all living things to the brilliance of your glory. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Ruler of the universe, let the rulers of the nations shine with your justice, peace and love. Grant mercy to the poor and weak, raise up those who live under tyranny, that all people might live in the light of your grace and peace. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of mercy, send peace, comfort and dignity to those in their last days, to family and friends who journey with them. Reassure the lonely, heal those who suffer illness and pain, especially Myrtle, Don and Carol, Arne, Kate, Margaret, Karen, Dave, Tiffany, Blair, Corrie, Patrick, Joel and Ellen, Linda, Tim, Shirley, Nicola, Reinhold and Isabel, Derek, Hugh and Ally, Carter, Doreen, Margaret and Clayton, Alan, Nancy, Sheila, Cindy, Jody, Cliff, and those we name silently now. Transform suffering into joy, anxiety to peace, darkness into light. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of light and mercy, you are the blazing light on the mountaintop who shines among us now. We give thanks for Pastor Margaret Koizumi and we pray that you will bless her in her ministry and in her time with us. We stand amazed, O God, that you have brought us to this point of officially calling a pastor. Trusting in your grace and guidance, may your presence be evident as we meet, and as we vote. We give thanks for the ongoing leadership of Church Council, and ask that you hold in your care Bernice Megli and Rob, Liz, Benson and Evelyn Morgan. Continue to journey with us, today and always, and transform our congregation of faith into a place of light and help to our neighbours and community. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of comfort, shine into the darkness of all who are grieving today. We pray for those mourn the passing of Dianne Zalesak– for Paul, for Marci and Dale and family, for Jim and Deb and family and for Rick and Shar and family, as well as the many extended family and friends. Be their source of strength now and always. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we place ourselves and all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.** 

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

#### **MEAL**

#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. 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**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

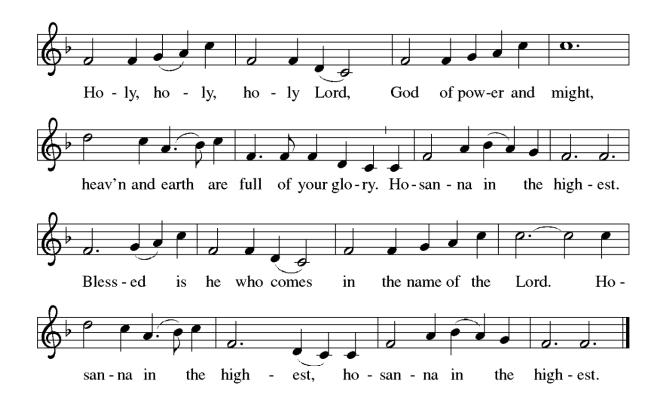
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed our duty and delight that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy Holy" – Sanctus from ELW Setting 10



Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen** 

United in Christ, we pray together . . .

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 TO COMMUNION**

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

> Together let us take and eat, the body of Christ given for you Together let us take and drink, the blood of Christ shed for you

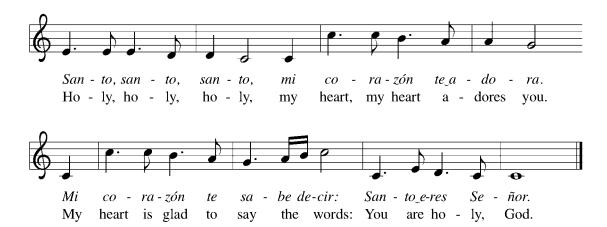
COMMUNION VIDEO - "You Are Holy" recorded by St Mark's Lutheran

**COMMUNION SONGS** 

# "Come and See" W&P 29



## "Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW 473



#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 hope and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, bless those who go forth to share this sacrament with those who are sick or homebound. May these gifts of bread and wine be signs of our love for them. We pray that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

May you know the dawning of God's grace in each new day.

May the love of Christ blaze from the mountain tops
and into the darkest corners of the world
that you may know God's peace;
in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## SENDING HYMN "Beautiful Saviour" (v 1,3,4) ELW 838



## **SENDING**

Go in peace. Let Christ's light shine!

Thanks be to God! We will!

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