

## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

EYEWITNESSES OF HIS MAJESTY

March 1 & 2, 2014

### AS WE GATHER

Today marks the turning point from Christmas to Easter. When Jesus shines on the mount, it is the final epiphany of His true, hidden nature before He starts foretelling His disciples about His Passion. The event reminds us of God's appearance on Mt. Sinai, when Moses and the elders ate and drank with Him. Yet it is so other-worldly that Peter has to affirm its validity in no uncertain terms to his readers. Our Lord's glory is unseen to human eyes today, but we hear Him in His Word and see Him by faith especially in the Lord's Supper, which strengthens us during difficult times.

### WELCOME

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,  
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." Proverbs 9:10*

### FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

### OPENING HYMN #413 "O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair" *Rise for the last stanza*

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!

With Moses and Elijah nigh  
The incarnate Lord holds converse high;  
And from the cloud the Holy One  
Bears record to the only Son.

With shining face and bright array  
Christ deigns to manifest today  
What glory shall be theirs above  
Who joy in God with perfect love.

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.

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.

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The LORD reigns;

**People: let the peoples tremble!**

Pastor: He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;

**People: let the earth quake!**

Pastor: The Lord is great in Zion;

**People: He is exalted over all the peoples.**

Pastor: Let them praise your great and awesome name!

**People: Holy is He!**

### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God is certainly holy, but in our fallen nature we are not. Let us therefore go to Him, confessing our sins. Heavenly Father,

**People: we confess that we have recognized you as an awesome God, but have failed to obediently conform our lives to your will in our daily thinking, speaking, and acting.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus,

**People: we confess that we have recognized you as the One who will hear our every prayer, but have failed to listen to you in your Word or to recognize your gracious presence with us each day to guide and direct us.**

Pastor: Holy Spirit,

**People: we confess that we have recognized you as the One who inspired the writers of Scripture, but have failed to regularly let you strengthen us through Word and Sacrament.**

Pastor: Eternal, holy God,

**People: forgive us and strengthen our faith so that your name be hallowed, your kingdom come, and your will be done among us today and always.**

Pastor: God ate and drank with Moses and the elders on Mount Sinai without laying a hand on them, and Jesus did not reject His awestruck disciples on the Mount of Transfiguration. Yet God's greatest glory is not in mountaintop splendor but in His taking flesh in the person of Jesus and offering Himself as a sacrifice at Mt. Calvary on our behalf. For His sake God graciously offers us full and free forgiveness. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven;**

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

### **+ WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT** Exodus 24:8–18 (*The Lord meets Moses and the elders on Mt. Sinai.*) Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, “This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.” Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself. But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank. The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction.” Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. He said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them.” When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

**EPISTLE 2** Peter 1:16–21 (*Peter asserts the truth of his seeing Jesus’ transfiguration.*)

We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this

voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

**5:00 ANTHEM** “*The Light of Glory*” Martin/Angerman *Choir*

**10:30 ANTHEM** “*My God is So Great*” *Pre-K & K*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 17:1–9 (*Jesus is transfigured on the mountain.*)

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

(Be seated)

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN** “**Shine Jesus Shine**” *W & R #319*

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:*

*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.*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter your brightness,  
search me, try me, consume all my darkness, shine on me, shine on me. *Refrain*

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*

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**SERMON** *“Eyewitnesses of His Majesty”* 2 Peter 1:16-21

(Rise)

**APOSTLES’ CREED** *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

**OFFERINGS** As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

**10:30 CONSECRATION OF GODMOTHER for Audrey Neeley**

(Rise)

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. O Lord, you have not left us alone in these last days, but you have promised to abide with us in the prophetic Word and the gift of your Holy Spirit.

**People: Grant us open ears and penitent hearts to listen to Jesus, to hear with faith the Scriptures as they are read aloud and preached in our midst, trusting your Word as our light in the darkness.**

Pastor: O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you revealed a glimpse of your glory and proclaimed Jesus to be your Son.

**People: Grant us the true glory of your incarnate presence in the blessed Sacrament, that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ and here learn from Him to live in faith toward God and in fervent love for one another.**

Pastor: Almighty God, you are the Author and Creator of marriage and family. Bless by your Spirit Mark and Katey who have been united by you to live together in holy love as husband and wife.

**People: Give to all married couples faithfulness of heart, guarding and protecting them from infidelity.**

Pastor: Lord of the Church, you desire your blessed children to grow up in their salvation. Bless, protect, and guide by your Spirit, Audrey Neeley. Bless also Ginger, her mother, and Colleen, her godmother, to support her in her spiritual growth.

**People: May all parents and godparents be diligent in their responsibilities to raise children in the one true faith.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you are the Lord of the nations, the One who rules in perfect justice, world without end. Continue to guide, comfort and sustain our leaders, especially Barack, our president, Scott, our governor, and all who administer the laws of the state.

**People: Grant all in positions of authority to rule justly, to preserve peace and good order, and to follow the example of your Son, who came not to be served but to serve.**

Pastor: O Lord, your Son is the center of the church year, as surely as He is the center of the Christian faith and life. As we prepare for the season of Lent, grant us penitent hearts and steadfast faith to put first things first, to repent of our sins and to exercise the discipline of prayer, fasting and charitable giving.

**People: Grant that we may faithfully journey yet again with your Word to the cross and empty tomb this Holy Season and keep the celebration of Easter in sincerity and truth.**

Pastor: Lord God, many in this world are lonely, without family and friends, or suffering from divorce, recent deaths and other traumas.

**People: By the preaching of your Word send down your Holy Spirit to sustain those who struggle. Through the fellowship of believers, grant that those who are weighed down by difficulties of life may find a place of consolation and comfort in the communion of saints.**

Pastor: O Lord, you know our every need, and you abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Bless, guide and support all who have requested

our prayers, especially Jon, Rosalie, Dorothy, Ruth, Warren, Corinne, Virginia, Dorothy, Sarah and Joe.

**People:** Grant that they may look to you alone in every need, patiently bear their crosses in faith and find great hope and comfort in the promise of the final resurrection of all flesh.

Pastor: Grant us these and all other things you know that we need, kind Father, for the sake of your only-begotten Son, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

## WORDS OF OUR LORD

## THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** Amen.

## AGNUS DEI HYMN

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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, grant us peace.  
(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

## HYMN #414 "Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;  
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with un-borrowed light.

"Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold  
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past And hope of things to be,  
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;  
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.

'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.

## HYMN #395 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light,  
A-glow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's race, King David's son,  
Our Lord and master, You have won Our hearts to serve You only!  
Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, All victorious,  
Rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!

Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine, And deep within our hearts now shine;  
There light a flame undying! In Your one body let us be  
As living branches of a tree, Your life our lives supplying.  
Now, though daily Earth's deep sadness May perplex us  
And distress us, Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls from God above  
A ray of purest pleasure, Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood Refresh our souls  
with heav'nly food. You are our dearest treasure!  
Let Your mercy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
For you teach us God's own love through You has reached us.

Almighty Father, in Your Son You loved us when not yet begun  
Was this old earth's foundation! Your Son has ransomed us in love  
To live in Him here and above: This is Your great salvation.  
Alleluia! Christ the living, To us giving  
Life forever, Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

O let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending! For Christ goes with us all the way –  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation! Exultation!  
Tell the story! Great is He, the King of Glory!

That joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness!  
We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

### **HYMN #493 “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”**

A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, by a road before un-trod,  
Ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band Upon the Mount of Olives stand.  
Alleluia, alleluia! And with His faithful foll’wers see  
Their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

To them the shining angels cry, “Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”  
Alleluia, alleluia! “This is the Savior,” thus they say;  
“This is His glorious triumph day!” Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

“You see Him now, ascending high Up to the portals of the sky.”  
Alleluia, alleluia! “Hereafter Jesus you shall see  
Returning in great majesty.” Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our future great reward.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Then, throned with You forever,  
We Shall praise Your name eternally. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to You let earth accord:  
Alleluia, alleluia! You are, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### **COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: We give thanks, heavenly Father, that in the person of your Son, truly present in this Sacrament, you have again assured us that our sins are forgiven. Grant us your Holy Spirit to accompany us through this day so that we may enjoy your heavenly benediction and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The LORD – the eternal God who entered human history in the person of Jesus to redeem us to Himself – 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.

**People: Amen.**

### **HYMN #417**

### **“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”**

*(Sung to Tune: LSB #621 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”)*

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.

Alleluia, thou re-soundest, True Jerusalem and free;  
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,  
But by Babylon’s sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.

Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;  
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while for-go;  
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.

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.

Preacher

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Liturgist

Pastor Harold Bender

Lectors

Virginia Sell, Jim Adams, Marc Stefanic

Acolytes

Nate Gottschalk, Hailey Kadolph, Kelsey Koepke

Organist

Roger Gottschalk

Music Coordinator

Kim Woller

Choir Director

Nancy Hoelke

Teachers Grades 4K – K

Ellen VanDyke, Jo Shemanske