



February 19, 2023

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand* “Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

- ♪ Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
- ♪ Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining; Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.
- ♪ Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion, Fragrance of Edom and off’rings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?
- ♪ Vainly we offer each ample oblation, Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
- ♪ Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 400-Text: Reginald Heber 1783-1826
Tune: James P. Harding 1850-1911; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol Him, all peoples!

For great is His steadfast love toward us,

And the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Psalms 117:1-2a

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

Bring an offering, and come into His courts!

Psalms 96:8

Confession and Absolution

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.”

2 Peter 1:19

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.

Amen.

The Prayer

The Lord be with you.

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. Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“This Is the Feast”

~This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

♪ Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

Whose blood set us free to be people of God. ~This is the feast...

♪ Power, riches, wisdom and strength,

And honor, blessing, and glory are His. ~This is the feast...

♪ Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

~This is the feast...

♪ For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. ~This is the feast....

Lutheran Service Book, Page 155-Text: tr. John W. Arthur; ©1978 Lutheran Church in America, The American Lutheran Church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod;
Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

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. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The 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 the prophetic word more fully confirmed, 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“The People That In Darkness Sat”

- ♪ The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
- ♪ To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home, Their harvest treasures home.
- ♪ To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
- ♪ His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored, The God by all adored.
- ♪ His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.

Please Stand

- ♪ Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one, And Holy Spirit, one.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 412-Text: John Morrison 1749-98; Tune: Nicolaus Herman c.1480-1561;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1–9

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

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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Beautiful Savior”

- ♪ 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.
- ♪ Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow’rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr’wing spirit sing.
- ♪ 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.
- ♪ Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 537- Text: Munsterisch Gesangbuch, Munster, 1677, tr. Joseph A. Seiss 1823-1904
Tune: Silesian, 19th cent., setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain.

Proclamation of the Word

“The Greatest Recognition Question Answered”

Matthew 17:1–9

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with the following:

Lord, in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Psalm 136

Proper Preface

Sanctus Hymn *Music: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," Hymn 892*

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God by heav'nly hosts adored,
All creation shows Your pow'r Shining star and fragile flow'r.
Blest, the One who comes to save Christ, who for our sins You gave.
Sing hosanna, ev'ryone. Sing hosanna to God's Son.

Text: James Pierce. Copyright © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei Hymn *Music: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," Hymn 892*

♪ Jesus, God's own Lamb, we pray As You take all sin away,
Hear us as we call Your name That with You we may remain.
You came to us from above; You have poured on us God's love.
Take our sin, give us Your peace, Till our days on earth shall cease.

Text: James Pierce. Copyright © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated* "At the Lamb's High Feast"

♪ At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

♪ Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast, Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

♪ Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

♪ Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

♪ Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

♪ Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

♪ Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

♪ Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by Whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 633-Text: Latin, c. 5-10 cent., tr. Robert Campbell 1814-68
Tune: Kirchengeseng, Ivancice, 1566; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Dismissal

Post-Communion Hymn *Music: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," Hymn 892*

♪ Father, let us now depart; You have shown to us Your heart.
We have seen salvation here—Christ, who gave Himself, so dear.
For the nations light is He, Israel's promised glory see.
To the Father, Spirit, Son, Has our endless praise begun.

Text: James Pierce. Copyright © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.
Amen.

Numbers 6:24–26

Recessional Hymn

“’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 unborrowed 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.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 414 - Text: Joseph A. Robinson 1858-1933; Tune: Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Postlude