

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Saturday, February 13, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ CONNECT +

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE PRAISE:

L: Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!

C: **Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!**

L: The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

C: **The LORD is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the peoples.**

L: Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is He!

C: **The King in His might loves justice. You have established equity. You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

L: Exalt the LORD our God; worship at His footstool! Holy is He!

ALL: **Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!**

OPENING HYMN: “Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

Jesus, take us to the mountain, Where with Peter, James, and John

We are dazzled by Your glory, Light as blinding as the sun.

There prepare us for the night, By the vision of that sight.

What do You want us to see there, That Your close companions saw?

Your divinity revealed there, Fills us with the selfsame awe.

Clothed in flesh like ours You go, Matched to meet our deadliest Foe.

What do You want us to hear there, That Your dear disciples heard?

Once again the Voice from heaven, Says of the Incarnate Word:

“Listen, listen, everyone, This is My beloved Son!”

Take us to that other mountain, Where we see You glorified,

Where You shouted “It is finished!”, Where for all the world You died.

Hear the stunned centurion: “Truly this was God’s own Son!”

We who have beheld Your glory, Risen and ascended Lord,

Cannot help but tell the story, All that we have seen and heard;

Say with Peter, James and John: “You are God’s beloved Son!”

(“Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain” by Jaroslav J. Vajda, copyright 1991. Used by permission.)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Holy Lord, Light of light, God of all creation, long ago you showed yourself to the disciples in Jesus’ transfiguration—His face glowing like the sun on a bright, spring morning. Shine in us, around us, and through us, that the world may see your glory in the faces of your people—faces transfigured in the light of your love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

GREETING TIME

+ NURTURE +

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 2 Kings 2:1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?” “Yes, I know,” Elisha replied, “so be quiet.” Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho. The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?” “Yes, I know,” he replied, “so be quiet.” Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on. Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?” “Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied. “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not.” As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE: “Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. (Repeat song)

(“Spirit of the Living God”, copyright 1963 Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, CCLI Lib. #921494)

EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 3:12-13; 4:1-6

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away.... Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of

Christ, who is the image of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter nine.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) He was still speaking when, lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them. And a voice from the cloud said: "This is my Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear ye Him!" Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

MESSAGE: "Where's the Glory?" – Pastor Bill Hugo

SONG OF THE DAY: "Majesty"

Maj - es - ty, wor - ship His maj - es - ty.

Un - to Je - sus be all glo - ry, hon - or and

praise. Maj - es - ty, king - dom au -

thor - i - ty flow from His throne un - to His

own; His an - them raise. So ex - alt, lift up on
high the name of Je - sus. Mag - ni - fy, come glo - ri -
fy Christ Je - sus, the King. Maj - es - ty,
wor - ship His maj - es - ty; Je - sus who
died, now glo - ri - fied, King of all kings.

("Majesty" by Jack Hayford, copyright 1981 Rocksmith Music, c/o Trust Management, CCLI Lic. #921494.)

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **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.

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: Today we celebrate the transfiguration of Jesus. We hear the voice of our heavenly Father saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." Yet, as we follow Jesus, we have often failed to listen to His words. We have chosen to listen to the voice of the world rather than the voice of our transfigured Lord. So now, we come before our heavenly Father to ask for His forgiveness. (*Silence for reflection*)

L: Let's confess our sins to God and to one another. Heavenly Father, though we want to walk with Moses and see God's holy radiance,

C: **We hide in the mist of our own desires, unable to perceive the presence of God's grace.**

L: While we want a world of justice and peace,

C: **We walk in clouds of selfishness, unable to share God's loving kindness.**

L: Though we want to follow Jesus up the mountain,

C: **We cower in fear, unable to bear the light of God.**

L: So we approach you today, Lord, as those who need your mercy, grace and forgiveness.

C: **Forgive us, Lord, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: "When the Saints Go Marching In"

**Oh, when the saints go marching in Oh, when the saints go marching in,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number When the saints go marching in.**

**Oh, when they gather 'round the throne, Oh, when they gather 'round the throne,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, When they gather 'round the throne.**

**And when they crown him king of kings, And when they crown him King of kings,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, When they crown him King of kings.**

**And on that hallelujah day, And on that hallelujah day,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, On that hallelujah day.**

**Oh, when the saints go marching in Oh, when the saints go marching in,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number When the saints...go...mar...ching...in!**

+ + +

Lay Minister: Jim Geslin