
Worship & Holy Communion
Transfiguration of Our Lord, Last Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 19, 2023 9:30 a.m.



Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

In God's Service

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Worship Leader: | Pastor Jane Harris |
| Ministers: | All Baptized People of God |
| Music: | Joe Chodur |
| Reader: | Lori Angell |

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have special prayer requests, you would like included in the Prayers of the Church, please write them on a purple slip from the table by the offering plate in the Narthex. The prayers will be brought forward during the Offertory.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

The assembly kneels or sits. Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare." God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior

Amen.

The assembly stands.

GATHERING HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

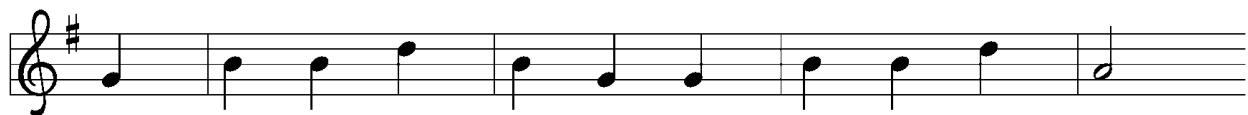
ELW 834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

GREETING

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

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,

in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Exodus 24:12-18

Moses enters the cloud of God's glory on Mount Sinai

Psalm 2

You are my son; this day have begotten you.

2 Peter 1:16-21

The apostle's message confirmed on the mount of transfiguration

Matthew 17:1-9

Revelation of Christ as God's beloved Son

A reading from Exodus:

¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai,

and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out 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. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: (PLEASE READ RESPONSIVELY.)

¹Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together,

against the LORD and against the LORD's anointed?

³"Let us break their yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their bonds from us."

⁴God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;

the LORD holds them in derision.

⁵Then in wrath God speaks to them,

and in rage fills them with terror.

⁶"As for me, I have anointed my king

upon Zion, my holy mountain."

⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD,

who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance

and the ends of the earth for your possession.

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod

and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

¹⁰And now, you kings, be wise;

be warned, you rulers of the earth.

¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear,

and with trembling bow in worship;

¹²lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.

Happy are all who take refuge in God!

A reading from 2 Peter:

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 had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*



GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John 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 dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW 671

(not available)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.

CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*PLEASE READ RESPONSIVELY*)

P: Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence. Embolden your church as it witnesses to the majesty and mercy of your Son.

C: Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors. Move us to share our stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness; may our lives proclaim your greatness.

P: Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley.

C: Bless the work of conservation organizations and protect vital habitats. Support the work of disaster relief agencies around the world.

P: Guide and give wisdom to all in authority: our mayor and local leaders, our governor and state legislators, our president and national legislators.

C: Bring freedom and justice to all nations.

P: Give shelter to those lacking safe homes.

C: Spur communities to work for fair housing for all. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings do not keep out dangerous cold or heat; accompany with your touch those who are homebound, sick, or isolated.

P: Make us eager to receive your Word in scripture.

C: Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors; make us confident to follow the way of the cross.

P: Receive our thanksgiving for the holy ones who have guided us in faithfulness and gathered even the unlikely as your people.

C: **With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns.**

P: We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with various rests and phrasing slurs.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

At communion both sides will be directed by the center aisle to kneel at the communion rail. Pastor will give you bread in a small cup and the acolyte will give you wine. After eating, please exit by the side aisles back to your seat, you can place your cups in the trays by the side aisles. This will be a continual movement until all have been fed. If you prefer to not come to the rail, you can pick up bread and wine from the center aisle and return to your seat and you will be invited to eat with the pastor after all have been fed.

COMMUNION SONG

Beautiful Savior

ELW 838



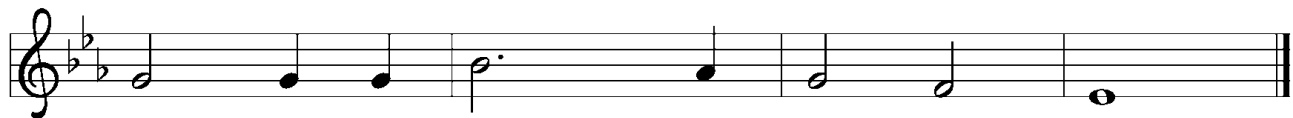
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assembly stands.*

Let us pray.

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW 318



- 1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
- 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
- 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
- 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

This Week:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Sunday, Feb. 19 | 9:30 am Worship/Communion @ SP 10:30 am Fellowship |
| Monday, Feb. 20 | 9:00 am Quilters OS 9:30 am Quilters SP |
| Wednesday Feb. 22 | 9:30 am M & M's SP 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service @ SP (Chapel) |

Upcoming:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday, Feb. 26 | 9:30 am Worship/Communion @ OS 10:30 am Fellowship 2:00 pm 2/4 Stitchers SP |
| Monday, Feb. 27 | 9:00 am Quilters OS 9:30 am Quilters SP |
| Wednesday, Mar. 1 | 9:30 am M&M's/WELCA SP 5:30 pm Soup Supper/7pm Lenten Service OS |

Announcements

To help Pastor Jane get to know us, please use a name tag. The name tags are located in the Narthex by the offering plates.

Contact information for Pastor Jane: phone number is 641-242-0337 and her email address is janeharris2010@gmail.com if anyone in our church family wanted to contact her.

Pastor Jane Church Office Hours:

(This may change as I get more settled in, but we need to start somewhere!)

Monday Day Off

Tuesday 12pm – 2pm **St Paul**; 3pm – 5pm **Our Saviour's**

1st Tuesday of the month St Paul Church Council Meeting 5:30 pm

2nd Tuesday of the month Our Saviour's Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

Wednesday 9am – 3pm **St Paul**

Thursday 9am – 3pm **Our Saviour's**

Friday 9am – Noon at whichever church is holding worship the following Sunday.

I will do my best to adhere to these hours, however, as you know, a pastor's schedule can change quickly with the events of the day, such as funerals, meetings, hospital visitations, etc. It is still best to call or text me (641-242-0337) if you are coming from a distance, and would like to visit with me. Thanks!

A **big thank you** to **Ken Truka** for replacing lightbulbs in the sanctuary with LED lights. What an improvement!

Thank you to everyone that helped set up, clean-up or bring delicious food for the potluck on February 5th. It was the perfect end to a wonderful morning as we began our new ministry together with Pastor Jane. Thank you also to the call committee and church councils for all their support. Once again all of us working together was a success. Thank you!

It is time for St. Paul to **return to having ushers** for our worship services. Two people are needed for each service that will greet people, bring the offering forward, and usher people forward for communion. A sign up sheet is available in the Narthex for you to pick a Sunday and grab a friend to usher. You will be reminded the week before with more detailed information. Sign up today and often.

It is hard to believe that it is **time for Lent**. We will be having our mid-week Lenten services on Wednesdays, and we will be bringing back soup suppers before worship. Soup will be served at 5:30 and worship will be at 7:00. We are moving worship to allow enough time for cleanup so we can worship together. If you would like to help with soup, please let the office know. The worship services will be Holden Prayer and we have a new devotion book that you can get at either church. *Water and Spirit* provides daily devotions for each day from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. Devotions begin with an evocative image and a brief passage from the Gospel of John. The writers then bring their unique voices and pastoral wisdom to the texts with quotations to ponder, reflections, and prayers. Join us and bring a friend.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|
| Ash Wednesday, February 28 | St Paul Chapel | | Worship 7:00 |
| Midweek March 1 | Our Saviour's | Soup 5:30 | Worship 7:00 |
| Midweek March 8 | St Paul | Soup 5:30 | Worship 7:00 |
| Midweek March 15 | Our Saviour's | Soup 5:30 | Worship 7:00 |
| Midweek March 22 | St Paul | Soup 5:30 | Worship 7:00 |
| Midweek March 29 | Our Saviour's | Soup 5:30 | Worship 7:00 |

Thrivent Choice Dollars-For those of you who have Thrivent financial accounts, the deadline for you to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars from 2022 is March 31. These can be directed to non-profits of your choice. You can do it online at [Thrivent.com](https://www.thrivent.com) or simply call 1-800-847-4836 and follow the prompts and press 6, then 2. An actual person will then ask for your name and birthdate and what organization you wish to direct your dollars to. The money will be deposited electronically.

Examples of non-profits: Lutheran Disaster Response, Our Saviour's or St. Paul, Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank, Community Kitchen, Lutheran World Relief etc.

Contact Marilyn Martell for more info or help.

Lutheran Disaster Response -contributions for the earthquake victims in Turkey & Syria-Once again Our Saviour's and St. Paul are working together to gather donations to help provide aid to the earthquake victims. Offerings designated "Earthquake offering" will be gathered in the next weeks until April 2 and then sent with both churches designated as the giver. Please prayerfully consider responding as the Holy Spirit guides you.

Mark Your Calendar **April 29th, Living Waters Spring Salad Luncheon** at Salem Lutheran Church, Lake Mills. All women of Our Saviour's and St Paul are invited! We will car pool. RSVP to 641-590-2891 before April 25th.

Please be sure to sign friendship registers located at end of pews.

There are sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall for serving coffee hour and the Community Kitchen. Please help where you can.

St Paul Lutheran Church

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641-423-7749 | secretary@stpaulmc.org

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

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