



The Transfiguration Of Our Lord

Opening Hymn

O Jesus King of Glory

#94

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: In a dazzling display, O Lord,

C: **you revealed who you were at the Transfiguration.**

P: Yet you got down off that mountain

C: **to make it known that you were here to suffer and to die for us.**

Confession & Absolution

P: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

C: **If we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.**

P: Today we see our Lord Jesus Christ in unveiled glory, a foretaste of the glory of our own resurrection.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. Our eyes are clouded and our understanding veiled. Our lives are full of shameful things; we stand in need of light. For the sake of your Son,**

Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and let your light shine upon us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ, who died for you and rose again, is God's beloved Son. Listen to him and behold his glory. As a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Song of Praise

Beautiful Savior

#369

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.

Children's Message

**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!

First Lesson

2 Kings 2:1-12 (NIV)

This lesson details the last day of Elijah's life. What would you do? He spent it in service to the Lord. Of all that is glorious in this world, skipping death might be at the top of the list. Why does Elijah get this honor? Elijah wasn't less sinful or better than anyone else. He had a nervous break down after a bad day and asked God to take his life! Elijah skipped death because God is merciful and gracious. Elijah truly was the chariots and horsemen of Israel – the strength of the nation. Moses started the nation at Sinai. Elijah kept it alive spiritually during its darkest days by his fearless witness to God.

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² 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.

³ 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, “but do not speak of it.”

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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, “but do not speak of it.”

⁶ 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.

⁷ Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise not.”

¹¹ 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.

¹² Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more.

Gospel

Mark 9:2-10 (NIV)

Life is filled with high points and low. They mirror and remind us of our spiritual life, which likewise has its high points and its low ones. For the heathen the highs and lows of life are random. For the Christian each is a preparation and an announcement of the other—Transfiguration for Lent, Lent for Easter. The Transfiguration, like all of Jesus’ demonstrations of his glory, was primarily for the benefit of those he called. It is to prepare them for the descent into the suffering of the Savior and their own suffering as well. If they can just remember! If they can just hang on to what they saw and especially to what they heard on the mountain top! Then they will not despair in Holy Week.

² 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. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ 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.” ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷ Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what “rising from the dead” meant.

Prayer of the Day

P: Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain.

C: **Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness;**

P: through Jesus Christ our Lord,

C: **who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day

How Good, Lord, to Be Here

#95

Sermon

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (NIV)

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For 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 the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Apostles' Creed

P: In a world that has difficulty believing in the one true God, but is so ready to believe that our universe happened by some unknown accident, what do you believe?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: In a society that so quickly rejects what God did through His Son, what do you believe?

C: I believe 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.

P: While many put their trust in things or people that they make into their gods, what do you believe that Jesus did that proves He has conquered death and is true God just as He said?

C: The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Those who refuse to trust the Lord are without hope. What do you believe that gives you hope?

C: 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.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow

#587

pianist-Pam Manske
acolyte-Ben Fouts

Ash Wednesday Worship
This Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:00 PM

Come early for the
Soup Supper
at 5:30 PM

