



## Transfiguration

*Jesus reveals his glory preparing us for his Passion*

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

*February 14, 2021*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

- **Bathrooms** are located in the fellowship hall. A changing table is located in the women's bathroom.

## WORSHIP THEME

Today, the Savior "preaches" to us his final sermon: Prepare for my passion. On the mount, Jesus appears to his disciples in glory as the Son of God. The Epiphany season is bookended by the voice of God the Father proclaiming Jesus his Son. Before he suffered as man's substitute, Jesus gave his Church a glimpse of the glory that he set aside to be our Savior. See how much he loves us! The God of Mt. Sinai, the Majestic Glory, became a man to suffer and die for us, just as Moses and the Prophets had foretold. It is good that we are here.

Today we also bid "farewell" to alleluia. It is the custom that alleluia is not spoken or sung in the church from Ash Wednesday until Easter morn. It is omitted from the Verse of the Day, the hymns, and liturgical songs. We stifle our joy during the season of Lent as we prepare and observe the Passion of our Lord. But don't worry; the church will shout it again on Easter morning as she rejoices at the entrance to the empty tomb.

## OPENING HYMN

How Good, Lord, to Be Here | CW 95



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry  
2 How good, Lord, to be here Your beau - ty  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past, Prom - ise of  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, We see your  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may



fills the night; Your face and gar - ments, like  
to be - hold, Where Mo - ses and E - li -  
things to be, We hail your bod - y glo -  
king - dom come; We long to hold the vi -  
not re - main; But since you bid us leave



the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
jah stand, Your mes - sen - gers of old.  
ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.  
sion bright And make this hill our home.  
the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.  
Tune: POTSDAM (SM) J. S. Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

## INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

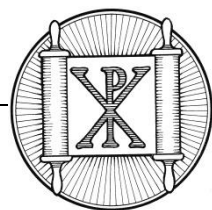
C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

## The Service of the Word

*Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.*



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: 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 brilliant 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 your 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..

*The **Collect** (also known as the "Prayer of the Day") is a concise prayer which "collects" the thoughts of the day and presents them to God in his mercy. Many of these prayers have been in use in the church for more than 1,500 years.*

**C: Amen**

## **FIRST LESSON**

2 Kings 2:1-12

*Elijah is taken up to heaven. He is the great preacher of the Old Testament and God's power is revealed through him and that power of God is revealed through Elisha. Both of them serve not as the source of power but rather those who reflect the power of God in their words and actions.*

<sup>2</sup> The time had come for the LORD to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elijah and Elisha were traveling from Gilgal, <sup>2</sup> and Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD is sending me on to Bethel."

But Elisha replied, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

<sup>3</sup> Then the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha and said, "Do you know that the LORD will take your master away from you today?"

He said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

<sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; the LORD is sending me to Jericho."

But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

<sup>5</sup> Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho came up to Elisha and said, "Do you know that the LORD will take your master away from you today?"

He said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

<sup>6</sup> Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD is sending me to the Jordan."

But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on.

<sup>7</sup> Fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood observing them at a distance while the two of them stood by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water, which parted to the right and left. Then the two of them crossed over on dry ground. <sup>9</sup> When they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken from you."

<sup>10</sup> Elijah replied, “You have asked for something difficult. If you see me being taken from you, you will have it. If not, you won’t.”

<sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire with horses of fire suddenly appeared and separated the two of them. Then Elijah went up into heaven in the whirlwind. <sup>12</sup>As Elisha watched, he kept crying out, “My father, my father, the chariots and horsemen of Israel!”

## Psalm 148

[illegible]

*Psalm Tone*



### *Refrain*

kings of the earth and all rulers on earth,  
young men and maidens, old men and children.

5

Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### ***Refrain***

## **SECOND LESSON**

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

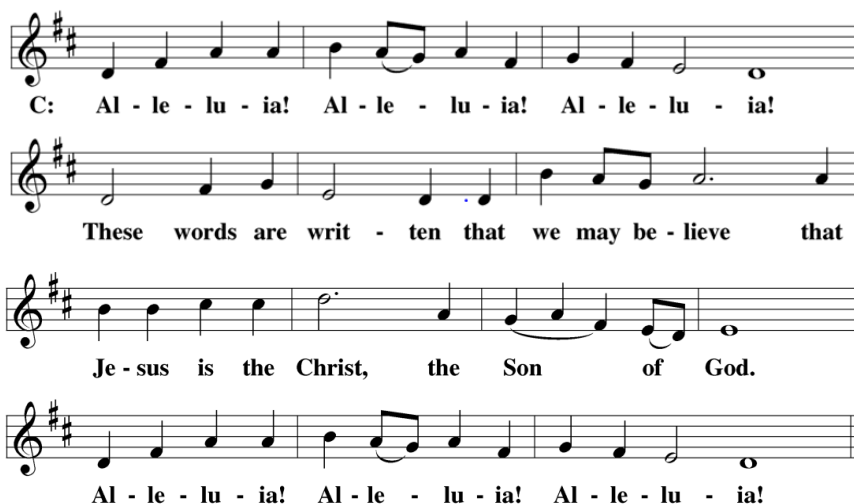
*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.*

<sup>12</sup>Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness. <sup>13</sup>We are not like Moses, who used to put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from gazing steadily until the end<sup>a</sup> of the glory of what was being set aside, <sup>14</sup>but their minds were hardened. For to this day, at the reading of the old covenant, the same veil remains; it is not lifted, because it is set aside only in Christ. <sup>15</sup>Yet still today, whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their hearts, <sup>16</sup>but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at<sup>b</sup> the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

Mark 9:7b

**Alleluia! Alleluia! A voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”**



## THE GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

*Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Later they will reflect Christ in his glory to the world.*

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain by themselves to be alone. He was transfigured in front of them, <sup>3</sup> and his clothes became dazzling—extremely white as no launderer on earth could whiten them. <sup>4</sup> Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it’s good for us to be here. Let’s set up three shelters: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”— <sup>6</sup> because he did not know what to say, since they were terrified.

<sup>7</sup> A cloud appeared, overshadowing them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my beloved Son; listen to him!”

<sup>8</sup> Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



## HYMN OF THE DAY

*O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair | CW 96*



1 Oh, won - drous type! Oh, vi - sion fair  
 2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh  
 3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray  
 4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high  
 5 O Fa - ther, with th' e - ter - nal Son



Of glo - ry that the Church may share,  
 Th' in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high,  
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day  
 By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,  
 And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,



Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,  
 And from the cloud the Ho - ly One  
 What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove  
 For which in joy - ful strains we raise  
 We pray you, bring us by your grace



Where bright - er than the sun he glows!  
 Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.  
 Who trust in his a - ton - ing love.  
 The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.  
 To see your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Latin hymn, 15th century; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: DEO GRACIAS (LM) English melody, 15th century.

## SERMON

Mark 9:2-9

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

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.

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.

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.

2 Cor. 6:18

Is. 51:13

1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18

Lk. 1:35

Lk. 1:34; 2:7

Lk. 23:16

Mt. 27:32-61; Mk 15:21-47

Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42

1 Pet. 3:19

1 Cor. 15:4b

Ac. 2:33-34

Heb. 1:13

Mt. 25:31

2 Tim. 4:1

Mt. 3:16-17

Eph. 5:23

Eph. 4:3-6

Rom. 4:6-8

1 Cor. 15:13-19

1 Th. 4:17

*Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith that **all Christians profess.** The creeds signify our allegiance to the Christian faith and unite us with over 2,000 years of Christian history. By repeating the creeds weekly, we equip ourselves for public witness by grounding our confession in the fundamentals of*

## OFFERING

*Of all the gifts God gives to us, forgiveness in Jesus Christ is the most precious. No gift we could give back to God for what he did through his Son Jesus Christ could ever balance the debt we owe for what our Lord accomplished for us on the cross. Yet Jesus says the debt we owe has been canceled, that means that we do not give out of obligation but as an act of worship and thanks to God. The offerings of the members of Christ Lutheran are gathered at this time. Guests need not feel obligated to give an offering.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

- M: We praise you, O Father, for the precious gift of your Son and for his glorious transfiguration on the holy mountain. Give us the firm resolve to listen to your Son, the eager readiness to believe his promises, and the joyful willingness to heed his commandments. By the sign of Moses and Elijah, show us that blessed are the dead who die in faith, for they shall know the power of Christ's resurrection and shall be "changed from glory into glory."
- M: O God and Father, let your Holy Spirit find a dwelling in our poor bodies and transform our weak, sinful lives into the radiance of goodness, purity, and righteousness. Transform our minds, our understanding, our judgements, yes, our whole persons to reflect the mind of Christ. Take our sickness and pain, our disappointments and despair, our sorrows and mourning, our pride and anger, our selfishness and envy, our hate and fear: take all these, O Father, and transform them by the power of Jesus.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

- M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- M: Look on your Church, O Lord, here and in every place, and grant that we and all who bear the name of Christ may daily offer up to you the acceptable sacrifices of repentance, thanksgiving, and loving obedience. Hear our prayer, and by your mercy grant our petitions for Christ's sake.

**C: Amen.**

## **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.**



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun-tain Where, with Pe - ter,  
 2 What do you want us to see there That your close com -  
 3 What do you want us to hear there That your dear dis -  
 4 Take us to that oth - er moun-tain Where we see you  
 5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, Ris - en and as -



James, and John, We are daz - zled by your glo - ry,  
 pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there  
 ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en  
 glo - ri - fied, Where you shout - ed, "It is fin - ished!"  
 cend - ed Lord, Can - not help but tell the sto - ry,



Light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us  
 Fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like  
 Says of the in - car - nate Word: "Lis - ten, lis - ten,  
 Where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -  
 All that we have seen and heard, Say with Pe - ter,



for the night By the vi - sion of that sight.  
 ours you go, Matched to meet our dead - liest foe.  
 ev - 'ry - one; This is my be - lov - ed Son!"  
 tu - ri - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"  
 James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

*The hymn writer reminds us that the glimpse of glory seen in Jesus' transfiguration foreshadows the ultimate glory of Christ displayed at Calvary, hidden under the cross.*

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: SILVER SPRING (87 87 77) Carl Schalk, b. 1929 © 1991 Carl Schalk. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people.  
Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and  
bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## THE BLESSING

*Numbers 6:22-27*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

M: 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.

*The  **blessing** of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on them, and I will bless them."*



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Be seated*

## CLOSING HYMN

*Praise to You and Adoration | CW 470*

## FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word alleluia, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to alleluia. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The alleluias will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

## ALLELUIA, SONG OF TRIUMPH

1. Alleluia, song of triumph, sound of joy that cannot die;  
Alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;

Saints adorned in robes of glory join the great angelic cry.

2. Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord,  
With Christ's holy Church united, justified, redeemed, restored,  
And with all his faithful people raise our songs to praise the Lord.
3. Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;  
Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego.  
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.
4. May our hymns be filled with longing—hear us, Holy Trinity—  
As we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally,  
When we shall once more be singing alleluia joyfully!

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*Scripture Quotations: From the Holy Bible, New International Version (NIV 1984), © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.*

# **Jesus Reveals His Future Glory**

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany—CWS Series B

*The Transfiguration of Our Lord*

## **God's Word for Today**

*Scripture only records one time when Jesus shone with divine glory. That was on a hilltop in northern Israel. On the Mount of Transfiguration Peter, James and John got a firsthand (and terrifying) look at Jesus' perfect glory. Why did Jesus do this? He did it, among many reasons, to give his disciples a glimpse of what the future holds for all believers. They were about to enter a difficult time as disciples. They would see their Messiah crucified. But future glory would follow, by God's grace.*

## **First Lesson (2 Kings 2:1-12a)**

1. Why was Elisha upset?
2. What request did Elisha have for Elijah?
3. How was Elijah taken away into heaven?

## **Gospel (Mark 9:2-9)**

4. Who met Jesus and his disciples when they climbed this high mountain?
5. Why did Peter make the suggestion he did in verse 5?



**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**My Personal Spiritual Growth Time and Talents – 2021**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Worship & Music:**

- ☐ Serve as an usher (hand out bulletins, collect offerings, etc.) (Time: three months of Sundays rotating throughout the year.)
- ☐ Serve as the lead usher (coordinating the other ushers) (time: 30 minutes before and 10 minutes after each worship service for a month.)
- ☐ Print & fold bulletins for services (Time: 45–60 minutes each month)
- ☐ Sing in the choir (Time: 1 hr. week practice & Sing in services per schedules.)
- ☐ Play (or learn) a musical instrument for worship \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Serve on the Altar Guild (change altar cloths) (Time: as needed)
- ☐ Create festive banners to beautify the church (Time: as needed)

**Children and Youth:**

- ☐ Serve as a Sunday School teacher (Time: 3-4 hours/week + 1 hour Sunday morning) (Training is available)
- ☐ Serve as a substitute Sunday School teacher (Time as above, when needed.)
- ☐ Coordinate Cradle Roll (send materials to parents of baptized children) (Time: various depending on number infants baptized)
- ☐ Assist with Vacation Bible School (Time: planning meeting + 1 hour/day for one week during summer)
  - Be a storyteller/teacher
  - Help with crafts
  - Help with games/recreation
  - Prepare snacks
- ☐ Pray regularly for our confirmation students (Time: you determine)