

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

## Transfiguration Sunday

**Introduction for the Day:** The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

## Gathering

Prelude

*Offertoire* by Joseph Jongen [1873-1953]

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

*Please stand as you are able.*

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**Amen.**

God is light; where there is no darkness at all.

**If we walk in the light as God is the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. God, our rock and refuge,

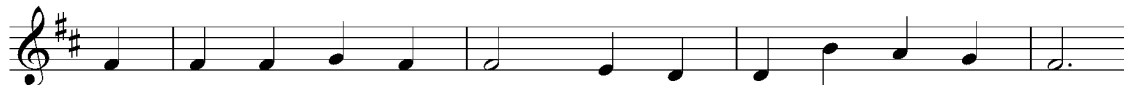
**we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

Jesus Christ, who died for you and rose again, is God's beloved Son. As a called and ordained minister of the Church 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.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Song

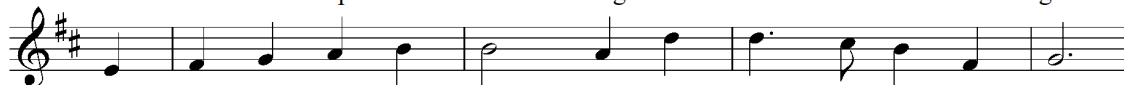
## When Jesus Stood in Glory



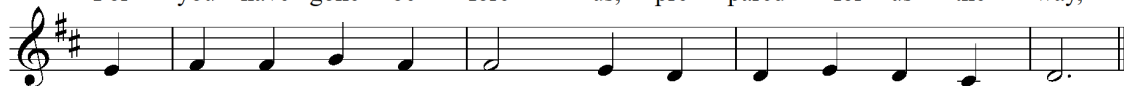
1. When Je - sus stood in glo - ry up - on that ho - ly hill,  
 2. That glimpse of glo - ry fright - ened dis - ci - ples who were there,  
 3. The bless - ings of the pre - sent re - veal God's glo - ry, too.  
 4. Lord, grant us such a bless - ing that through all toil and pain,



No one dared tell this sto - ry for he must first ful - fill  
 And yet they longed to tight - en their hold on views so rare.  
 All these though e'er so plea - sant are earth - ly gifts for you.  
 With faith and hope un - ceas - ing e - ter - nal life we gain.



The will of God His Fa - ther as pro - phets long had said,  
 It's good for us to be here, we'd dear - ly love to stay,  
 There is a great - er glo - ry re - served for you in heav'n;  
 For you have gone be - fore us, pre - pared for us the way,



The Son must die for oth - ers and then rise from the dead.  
 For all that we can see here is free from sor - row's day.  
 But first be - lieve Christ's sto - ry, may praise to him be giv'n.  
 And you have pro - mised to us the re - sur - rec - tion day.

Tune: Aurelia, 76 76D Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876. Text: C.R. Symmank © 1997, MorningStar Music Publishers. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

## Litany for the Transfiguration of Our Lord

In a dazzling display, O Lord,

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

You appeared with Elijah the prophet

**to announce that you were the One the prophets had spoken about for centuries.**

You appeared with Moses, who led the Israelites out of Egyptian captivity,

**to declare to us that we would be saved from our bondage to sin.**

You were surrounded by the voice of God

**to make it loud and clear that you were sent by God.**

Transfigured Lord,

**continue to make yourself known to us day after day.**

## Apostolic Greeting

The grace of God that extends to all nations in Christ Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

### First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

*Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.*

A reading from 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings, Chapter 2.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm Reading

Psalm 50:1-6

*Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)*

Let us read responsively from Psalm 50.

The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God shines forth in glory.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

**God calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of the people.**

“Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

**The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause, for it is God who is judge.**

## Second Reading 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

*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.*

A reading from 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians, chapter 4.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Gospel Acclamation

## How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1. How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night; your  
 2. How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold where  
 5. How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main; but

face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
 Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
 since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt. Tune: Potsdam, SM. Music: W. Mercer, The Church Psalter and Hymn Book, 1854. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

## 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. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

*Please stand as you are able.*

Hymn of the Day

**Our Lord's Transfiguration***(Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)*

1. Our Lord's trans - fig - ur - a - tion was seen by James and John
2. "It's good for us to be here," said Pe - ter, filled with fear.
3. Then sud - den - ly no long - er did bright - ness fill the air.
4. The king - dom of Christ Je - sus has glo - ry as was seen;



And Pe - ter, whose con - fes - sion pro - claimed Him Christ, God's Son.  
 Three shel - ters should be built here; we'll keep this glo - ry near.  
 They saw no one but Je - sus was stand - ing with them there.  
 But death and re - sur - rec - tion are part of Christ's own scheme.



Now high up - on this moun - tain they saw His glo - ry shine; \_\_\_\_\_  
 A cloud then ov - er sha - dowed this scene so bright and fair \_\_\_\_\_  
 Je - sus then gave them or - ders to tell no one this news. \_\_\_\_\_  
 "The Son of Man must suf - fer, be killed and then a - rise;" \_\_\_\_\_



There Mo - ses and E - li - jah talked with our Lord di - vine.  
 "This is My Son, whom I love. Hear Him," a voice de - clared.  
 Un - til the res - ur - rec - tion would shape their king - dom views.  
 With this He earns the glo - ry that soon will fill our eyes.

Text: C.R. Symmank © 1997, based on Mark 9:2-9. MorningStar Music Publishers. Tune: Lancashire 76  
 76D Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-  
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## Profession of Faith

## The Apostles' 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.**

## Installation of New Council Members (11:00 Service)

People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share  
in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation. Almighty God bless  
you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful  
servants of Christ.

**Amen.**

*Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.*

## Prayers of Intercession

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the  
church, the world, and all of creation.

...God of Grace,

**Receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of  
our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## Meal

Musical Offering

8:30

*Aria* by Paul Manz

11:00

*Go Up to the Mountain of God* by Michael Helman

*Go up to the mountain of God where Christ transfigured Shines as the morning star. Gaze in awe and wonder upon the beauty of Jesus the Lord: Alleluia, alleluia.*

*Go up to the mountain of God and speak with prophets - Moses, Elijah. Join with all the angels and saints in praising the incarnate Word: Alleluia, alleluia.*

*Go up to the mountain of God and hear the loving Father proclaiming: This is my beloved Son. Hear his word and follow his way. Alleluia, alleluia.*

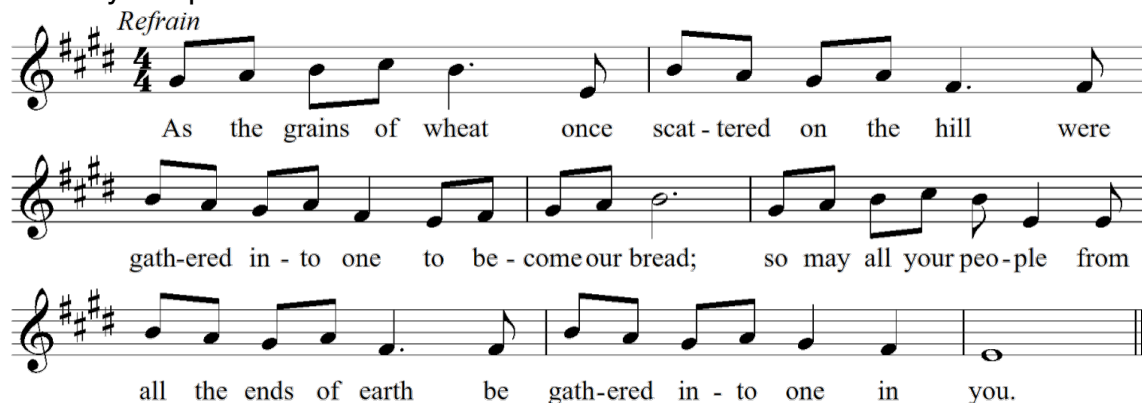
*Go up to the mountain of God. And there renew your faith in the Son of God. May your life of faith reflect the light of Christ to the world. Alleluia, alleluia.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

Offertory Response

### As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

Tune: As the Grains, Irregular, Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950. Text and Music Copyright © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Offertory Prayer

Through the power of your grace, you have transformed us from sin's slaves to your own children. Transform us again, by your Spirit that we may be your servants. By your Spirit awaken our faith, that, feasting on your Word, we may love you more fully and serve our neighbor more faithfully; in the name of Jesus, we pray.

**Amen.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

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

### Invitation to Communion

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

**We come to be filled with light and life.**

*Please be seated.*

### Call to Communion

**#486 God Extends an Invitation  
*/Nuestro Padre nos Invita***

### Communion Hymn

**#484 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace.

**Amen.**

### Prayer After Communion

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**



## Sending

### Blessing

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, †  
bless you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### Farewell to Alleluia

*Historically the saying and singing of "alleluias" has been suspended during the 40 days of Lent because of the penitential character of the season. It is suggested that the joyful nature of alleluia is more appropriately reserved for Easter celebrations when it can be given full and jubilant voice. The omission of alleluias during Lent goes back at least to the 5th century in the Western Church. The custom of bidding it farewell was developed in the Middle Ages. The hymn "Alleluia, Song of Gladness" contains a translation of an 11th century Latin text that compares an alleluia-less Lent to the exile of the Israelites in Babylon. The text then anticipates the joy of Easter when glad alleluias will return in all their heavenly splendor.*

I heard a great voice from heaven, saying: Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power be to the Lord our God.

**And again they said: Alleluia!**

From the Mount of Transfiguration the Lord God reigns!

**Alleluia!**

They came down in the valley of life where there is a time for all things, a time to laugh a time to cry, and a time to look at the cross. Jesus said, "If anyone wants to follow me, let one forget oneself, take up one's cross and follow me." Today the church buries its Alleluia until Easter morning when it rises with Christ at his glorious resurrection.

**Until that day when we celebrate Christ's resurrection with joy, we commit our Alleluia to the God who gave it.**

O God, you give us reason to praise your name with Alleluia. As we enter a Lenten season to reflect upon our human nature and the way you have given yourself for us, we withhold our Alleluia until we celebrate Easter. We await to be people alive in you.

**Amen.**

## Sending Song

## Alleluia! Song of Sweetness

1. Al - le - lu - ia, song of sweet - ness, Voice of joy that  
 2. Al - le - lu - ia thou re - sound - est, True Je - ru - sa -  
 3. Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways Be our song while  
 4. There - fore in our hymns we pray Thee Grant us, bless - ed

can - not die; Al - le - lu - ia is the an - them  
 lem and free; Al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er,  
 here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions  
 Tri - ni - ty, At the last to keep Thine Eas - ter

Ev - er dear to choirs on high; In the house of  
 All thy child - ren sing with thee; But by Ba - by -  
 Make us for a while fore - go; For the sol - emn  
 In our home be - yond the sky, There to Thee for -

God a - bid - ing Thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.  
 lon's sad wa - ters Mourn - ing ex - iles now are we.  
 time is com - ing When our tears for sin must flow.  
 ev - er sing - ing Al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin Hymn, 11th Century, tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: Picardy, 87 87 87  
 Music: French folk tune, 17th Century.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

*Voluntary XI* by G. F. Handel [1685-1759]

## Scripture for Transfiguration Sunday – February 11, 2024

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading -- 2 Kings 2:1-12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you."

So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.

Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not."

As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a

whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading -- 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### Gospel Reading -- Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.

And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.