

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 18-19, 2023

"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education"



Music of Preparation
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: ***"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."***

Welcome! Welcome to worship as we celebrate the Transfiguration and catch a glimpse of Jesus' divine glory.

Devotions & Publications are available in the Main Entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... WORSHIP NOTES

Communion: *The Lord's Supper - A Reverent Sacrament

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27,29, "Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the Lord's cup in an unworthy way is guilty of sinning against the Lord's body and blood. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the Lord's body brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks." In view of the serious nature of the Lord's Supper, Paul commands us to examine ourselves to see if we are partaking the supper for the purposes for which Christ instituted with our hearts properly prepared. We heartily invite Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to receive of the Lord's Supper. Other guests, we ask you to see the pastor or lay minister first so that you may receive the supper to your benefit rather than to your harm as the Apostle Paul warns.

NOTE: If you are allergic or cannot drink full strength wine, The two (2) cups in the center of each tray have water with a drop or two of wine.

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. ***Please list the name of each person in worship.*** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Please sign our guest book found in the main entryway. Our church and school have a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 203 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare to receive the Lord's Supper this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for use before and after receiving the Lord's Supper (page 308 as well as on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

O Lord God Almighty, even as You bless Your servants with various and unique gifts of the Holy Spirit, continue to grant us the grace to use them always to Your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Alleluia, Song of Gladness"

LSB, hymn #417

Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

Alleluia, thou resoundest, True Jerusalem and free;
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,
But by Babylon's sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.

Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.

Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

C: Amen. *Matthew 28:19b*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.
Let us humble ourselves before our Good and gracious God.

(Moment of silent reflection)

P: Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *Luke 18:13*

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God,

C: merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. *John 20:19-23*

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy (Sung)

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory To God In The Highest (Sung) *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: And also with you.

P: 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 bright 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 our 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.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

Epistle Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16-21

(We Were Eyewitnesses!)

We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Stand (as you are able)

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

C: (Sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 17:1-9

(Transfiguration Of Jesus)

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters -one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"

LSB, hymn #414

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.

'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Sermon: "Mountain Tops and Valleys"

Matthew 17:1-9

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

P: Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for revealing to the world Your goodness and mercy in the gift of Your beloved Son. Being of one substance with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, He has revealed Your glory chiefly in His sacrifice on the cross for the life of the world. Make us certain that because He died and lives again, we and all

who trust in Him are now given eternal life in the forgiveness of our sin. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: By Your Word and Spirit, bless Your people. Send forth laborers into Your harvest field that Your kingdom may be extended to all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant Your help and protection to all who are in the authority of government, bless our country that righteousness and peace abound that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Comfort with Your Holy Spirit all who are in trouble, want, sickness, or any adversity, that they may receive healing of body and mind and peace in their souls. Bless all medical professionals and emergency workers and all who supply the needy in any way. We pray that You be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especiallly*, . . .). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). In every time of trouble, show Yourself a very present help, the Savior of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

P: Dear Friends in Christ, leading and helping in the church of Jesus Christ matters! So I would like to ask that all those in leadership of our church and those who serve as volunteers (in any capacity) in our church and school to please stand.

Today, all of us here at St. Paul's are thanking God for the servant heart we see in each one of you. You are truly gifts of God to us! Even as your service is a gift to us, it's also a privilege that God has given to you. He has qualified you for service and calls you to it.

With this in mind, as you volunteer your time and talents to the Lord's work in our church and school, Will you exercise integrity? Will you model Jesus' love for each person in your sphere of influence? Will you continue to grow in faith and knowledge as you spend time daily in God's Word and prayer?

Volunteers: Yes, as God works this in me.

P: To the entire congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School: Will you honor and respect these leaders and workers as representatives of Jesus Himself? Will you pray for them and encourage them? Will you follow their godly example and do all you can to make their work a joy, not a burden?

Congregation: Yes, as God works this in us.

P: Let us pray, . . . Lord Jesus, You have given Your people many and varied gifts, talents, and abilities. You open doors for us to use our giftedness in our homes, communities, and here at St. Paul's.

Teach us to serve gladly, knowing that by serving others, we are serving You. Increase our love for You and for one another so that when others see our unity, they praise you for it.

Day by day, help us grow in our willingness and ability to speak words of encouragement and appreciation to one another. Protect us from envy and quarreling.

Make us more and more like the people whom Paul once named as "workers in the Lord" (Romans 16:12). Teach us to live like Phoebe, whom Paul describes as "a servant of the church" (Romans 16:1). Make us truly thankful for those among us who serve us in your name, Lord Jesus. It's in that name we pray.

C: AMEN

P: To all those who volunteer and serve, in any way in our church and school, we give thanks to God for your presence and your service in His name. Go forth in His peace and with His strength and blessing.

C: Amen. Thanks Be To God.

OFFERTORY - Let The Vineyards

LSB, Hymn # 955

C: (Sung) Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

HOLY COMMUNION

(In preparation to receive the Sacrament, please read the Communion notes on page 2)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Psalms 136

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord. We praise and thank You for Your love for us for You have conquered sin and death and You give to us eternal life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy (Sung)

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

P: O 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.

Matthew 6:9-13

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Mt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Agnus Dei

LSB pg210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Please be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB642 - O Living Bread from Heaven

O living Bread from heaven, How well You feed your guest!
The gifts that You have given Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows.

My Lord, You here have led me To this most holy place
And with Yourself have fed me The treasures of Your grace;
For You have freely given What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; This food can death destroy.
And You have freely granted The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit The favor You have shown,
And all my soul and spirit Bow down before Your throne.

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.

LSB416 - Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory (TUNE LSB 477)

Swiftly pass the clouds of glory,
Heaven's voice, the dazzling light;
Moses and Elijah vanish;
Christ alone commands the height!
Peter, James, and John fall silent,
Turning from the summit's rise
Downward toward the shadowed valley
Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.

Glimpsed and gone the revelation,
 They shall gain and keep its truth,
 Not by building on the mountain
 Any shrine or sacred booth,
 But by following the Savior
 Through the valley to the cross
 And by testing faith's resilience
 Through betrayal, pain, and loss.

Lord, transfigure our perception
 With the purest light that shines,
 And recast our life's intentions
 To the shape of Your designs,
 Till we seek no other glory
 Than what lies past Calv'ry's hill
 And our living and our dying
 And our rising by Your will.

LSB412 - The People That in Darkness Sat

The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
 The light has shined on them who long In shades of death have been,
 In shades of death have been.

To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come;
 They joy as when the reapers bear Their harvest treasures home,
 Their harvest treasures home.

To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
 And on His shoulder ever rests All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
 All pow'r in earth and heav'n.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
 The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored,
 The God by all adored.

His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
 On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end,
 His reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
 Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one,
 And Holy Spirit, one.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. . . . Almighty God, as the disciples beheld Your glory on the mountain, so have we see Your glory in Your Word and Sacraments. Lead us to trust in the means of grace where You reveal Yourself to us and bestow upon us grace upon grace. Give us Your Spirit that we may keep in faithful lives what we have received in our hearts today; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

BLESSING

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:1

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

Closing Hymn: "Beautiful Savior"

LSB, hymn #537

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.

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!

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There will be Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that will be wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you are wanting prayer for yourself, someone else or prayer for a concern or situation you may have.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my sister, Delores Busse Wehrenberg and my brother, Orville Busse, by Connie Busse Ashline.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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