

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 19, 2023

We welcome Bishop S. John Roth this morning while Pastor Adam is away

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by Sandi Watts, organist

GATHERING

**Call to Worship* – “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ELW 834 (organ)

- 1 **Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!**
- 2 **Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3 **To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.**
- 4 **Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

**Confession and Forgiveness*

P: We gather in the name of our + Triune God in whom we are baptized - the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit - who is light to the world, washes us of our sins, and gives life to all.

C: Amen.

P: Remembering God's baptismal love, we step out in faith to confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of glory,

C: you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us
in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

✠ In Christ your sins are forgiven
and you are clothed in peace.

C: Amen.

**Sharing of the Peace*

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

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children's Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “Open the Eyes of My Heart”

(piano)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You, I want to see You.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.

I want to see You, I want to see You.

**To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love, As we sing holy, holy, holy. Repeat**

Coda: As we sing holy, holy, holy.

We sing holy, holy, holy. We sing holy, holy, holy.

I want to see You. Repeat coda

I want to see You.

WORD

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

Reader: Mike Fenner

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.

Reader: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 16:24–17:8

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷‘For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.’

¹⁷Six days later, Jesus 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.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Song – “How Good, Lord, to Be Here!” ELW 315, vv. 1, 2, & 5 (organ)

- 1 **How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.**
- 2 **How good, Lord, to be here! Your beauty to behold
where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.**
- 5 **How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.**

Sermon – “Get Up and Do Not Be Afraid”

Song of the Day – “Shine, Jesus, Shine” (piano)

1. **Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me.**

*Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!*

2. **Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness;
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness;
Shine on me, shine on me. Refrain**

**The Apostles' Creed*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

"The Old Rugged Cross," arr. Wyrzten
Jean Welch, pianist

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

P: The Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are gifts of God's grace to claim and sustain us in our lives as disciples of Jesus. Baptism proclaims our identity, that we are beloved children of God, called to love God and our neighbors. Holy Communion reconnects us to the Body of Christ and nurtures our lives of faith with forgiveness and life.

C: **We give thanks to God as we receive this gift of grace anew today.**

**Words of Institution*

P: 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.

**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 Songs

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ELW 815 (organ)

- 1 **I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

*Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

- 2 **I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. Refrain**
- 3 **I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.
Refrain**

"God Forgave My Sin in Jesus' Name" (piano)

1. **God forgave my sin in Jesus' name; I've been born again in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you To share his love as he told me to.**
*Refrain: He said, "Freely, freely you have received: Freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and, because you believe, Others will know that I live."*
2. **All power is given in Jesus' name, In earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus' name I come to you To share his power as he told me to. Refrain**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “Your Grace Is Enough”* *(piano)*

**1. Great is your faithfulness, O God of Jacob;
you wrestle with the sinner’s restless heart.**

You lead me by still waters into mercy where nothing can keep us apart.

*Refrain: So remember your people, remember your children,
remember your promise, O God.*

*For your grace is enough, your grace is enough, your grace is enough,
your grace is enough for me.*

**2. Great is your love and justice, God of Jacob; you use the weak to lead the strong.
You lead us in the song of heaven’s vict’ry, and all your people sing along.**

Refrain twice

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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“Open the Eyes of My Heart,” words and music by Paul Baloche. CCLI#973583

“Shine, Jesus Shine,” text and music by Graham Kendrick, © 1987 Make Way Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere), Integrity’s Hosanna! Music. CCLI#973583

“God Forgave My Sin in Jesus’ Name (Freely, Freely),” text and tune by Carol Owens, © 1972 by Lexicon Music, Inc. CCLI#973583

“Your Grace Is Enough,” by Matt Maher, from Spirit and Song 2, © 2005, OCP Publications. Used by permission.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker
Greeter: Lillian Korous
Reader: Mike Fenner
Ushers: Char & Paul Hubbard
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Pianist: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Ken Devlin & Patty Nelson
Chancel Committee: Kim Heise
Coffee Host: Kay Schnitker



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth
Marilyn Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Melissa Street
Rigby Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Carol VanderKloot

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street

The plants at the altar today are donated by Sharon Zuiderveld
in memory of Pastor Adam's mother, Judy Dichsen

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, February 19, 10:45am: Choir Rehearsal **Newsletter Deadline**

Monday, February 20, 12noon: Potluck
12:30pm: Faith & Film: "The Intern"

Tuesday, February 21, 6pm: Pancakes & Praise (*see paragraph on page 9*)

Wednesday, February 22, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
5pm: New Member Orientation
7pm: Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 23, 6pm: Church Council Meeting

Sunday, February 26, 9:30am: Baptism – Malia Ruth Lee
10:45am: Pastor’s Pick Book Group
Exaltation Ringer Rehearsal
5:30pm: Confirmation Class
Wednesday, March 1, 7-8am: Men’s Prayer Group
6pm: Soup Potluck Meal
6:45pm: Lenten Worship
Thursday, March 2, 5pm: Parish Worship Meeting
Saturday, March 4, 9am: Men’s Breakfast (cooking begins at 8am)

News Updates

Music Rehearsal Time Changes

Our Exaltation Ringers and Chancel Choir are trying out a new rehearsal schedule to encourage more to be a part of the music program here at Faith.

**Chancel Choir will meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays;
Exaltation Ringers on the 2nd and 4th Sundays; all from 10:45-11:15am**

Why should you consider joining us? How about free singing/ringing lessons, do something for yourself, and learn something new? Music is a gift of God... wouldn't it be a boring world without it? Making music together also relieves stress, stimulates the immune system, increases pain threshold, may help snoring, improves lung function, develops a sense of belonging and connection, enhances memory, helps with grief, improves mental health. (*Source: Healthline*)

I hope to see you on Sunday mornings for rehearsal at 10:45am in the sanctuary!
Jean Welch, *Director of Music*

Faith and Film – February 20

Do you like the ways movies nurture and challenge our faith? Come check out this new small group as we gather for fellowship and lunch, then watch a movie and have discussion. We'll have a potluck at noon and then watch "The Intern" on **Monday, February 20** (President's Day). Please bring a dish to share and then stay for the movie and discussion.

Pancakes and Praise – Tuesday, February 21, 6:00pm

Ancient church tradition includes fasting from excess during the season of Lent. To prepare for this fast, on Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday), families would remove all of the fat and sugar from their homes. What do you do with all of that excess

goodness? Make pancakes! Join us in the Great Room for a delicious meal of pancakes, eggs, and sausage followed by some time for worship and praise. A free-will offering will be collected to go completely to the needs of the children at Pillars of Africa in Uganda where a team will visit in March.

Ash Wednesday – February 22, 7:00pm

Lent is just around the corner! Join us for our traditional service of the imposition of ashes. The practice reminds us that we are dust and to dust we shall return... but also proclaims that we find life in the cross of Christ. Stay tuned for more about our Lenten midweek services.

Central/Southern IL Synod Assembly

The schedule for the **2023 Synod Assembly** of our Central/Southern IL Synod is:

Session 1: Saturday, March 25 via Zoom

Sessions 2-6: Thursday-Saturday, June 1-3 in person in East Peoria

Faith is entitled to two (2) lay voting members, plus the pastor. If you are interested in serving as one of the voting members, please contact Pastor Adam.

Prayer Partners

As Pastor Adam, Benen Dichsen, Melissa and Kelly Street, Patty Nelson, and Kevin Krohe prepare for their trip to Uganda, we are looking for helpers to cover them in prayer. Retired pastor Glen VanderKloot will be coordinating a group of volunteers to pray for each of them, multiple times each day, for the duration of their trip. He will provide five short prayers that can be used to help. More information will be shared today in worship. If you would like to participate, please contact Glen at pastor@faithlutheran.com.

Faith Telephone Directory draft

Another draft of a new Faith Directory is available in the gathering area on the Coffee Sales counter by the Mission & Ministry Center — please make any corrections/additions/deletions on that copy. A new directory will then be available later in February for all to take home (1 per household, please).

The first Draft copy of the Directory has disappeared, and it had information written in it that we need for the new directory. If by chance you took it home by mistake, could you please return it? Thank You!

Financial Statements

2022 Financial Statements are available at the tall table outside of the office at church. If there is no envelope with your name on it, please let Pam Devlin know or contact the church office.

Free Spring Concert to Support Green Pastures

The popular Christian quartet TWO BY TWO and K's Creek Golf Club are hosting a Free Spring Concert on **Sunday, March 19 at 6:00pm** at K's Creek, 1265 Sandusky Rd. in Jacksonville. Featured performers will be TWO BY TWO, Hope Cherry, The Benz Trio, Roger Wainwright, Rod Nicholson, and John Love. There is no cost to attend – free-will donations to benefit Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center will be gratefully accepted. For more information, call 217-473-4735.

Contribution Envelopes for 2023

will be available soon in the gathering area — the printing has been delayed, but the company will get them to us as soon as they can. After they come in, if you don't see a box with your name on it, please mention this to Barb Davenport, Pam Devlin, or Kris Roth. We will happily provide you with a box. If you would like to register for our easy, **automatic online giving service**, contact the church office. There are no fees, and it saves you from remembering to write that weekly check!

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf & flavored; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate—milk & dark; **\$5.50** coffee pods). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.