

# Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025

## *Greetings and Welcome*

*Prelude: "Beautiful Savior," ELW 838, sung by the congregation (piano)*

- 1 **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.**
- 2 **Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;**  
**Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**
- 3 **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.**
- 4 **Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!**  
**Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!**

## GATHERING

*\*Call to Worship and Confession*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for confession*

P: Have mercy, O God,

**C: against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

P: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through † Jesus Christ.  
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**C: Blessed be God forever.**

*\*Gathering Song – “Come Thou, Almighty King” ELW 408 (piano)*

- 1 **Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing;  
help us to praise; Father all-glorious,  
o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.**
- 2 **Come, thou incarnate Word, merciful, mighty Lord;  
our prayer attend. Come and thy people bless,  
and give thy word success, and let thy righteousness on us descend.**
- 3 **Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear  
in this glad hour! Thou who almighty art,  
rule now in ev'ry heart, never from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.**
- 4 **To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be hence evermore!  
Thy sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.**

*\*Greeting and Prayer of the Day*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray ... Dazzling Lord,  
**in blinding light you showed your disciples a hint of your power and purpose.  
Reveal yourself to us today. Show us what you desire of us and how to broadcast  
your love to the world, for the sake of the one who keeps company with the  
prophets Moses and Elijah, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*\*Sharing Christ's 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.*

## WORD

\**Gospel Reading:* Luke 9:28-45

Reader: Sharon Zuiderveld

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup>Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup>They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup>Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup>Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup>While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup>Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' <sup>36</sup>When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

<sup>37</sup>On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. <sup>38</sup>Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. <sup>39</sup>Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. <sup>40</sup>I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' <sup>41</sup>Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.' <sup>42</sup>While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. <sup>43</sup>And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples, <sup>44</sup>'Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands.' <sup>45</sup>But they did not understand this saying; its meaning was concealed from them, so that they could not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

- 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.**
- 3 **Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be,  
we hail your body glorified and our redemption see.**
- 4 **Before we taste of death, we see your kingdom come;  
we long to hold the vision bright and make this hill our home.**
- 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:* "Transfiguration"

*Song of the Day* – “Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord”

(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.**

*\*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*

Mission Moment – Hallie Mayner  
“Mission Meals”

*–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–*

*\*Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*\*Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution*

*\*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**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Communion Songs*

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” *(piano)*

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus, Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.**

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ELW 618 *(organ)*

1. **Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow’ful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,  
Feed me now and evermore.**
2. **Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer, shield me with your mighty arm,  
Shield me with your mighty arm.**
3. **When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore,  
I will raise forevermore.**

“Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair” ELW 316 *(organ)*

- 1 **Oh, wondrous image, vision fair of glory that the church may share,  
which Christ upon the mountain shows,  
where brighter than the sun he glows!**
- 2 **With Moses and Elijah nigh the'incarnate Lord holds converse high,  
and from the cloud, the Holy One says, "This is my beloved Son."**

- 3 **With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest today  
what glory shall be theirs above who joy in God with perfect love.**
- 4 **And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery;  
for which in joyful song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.**
- 5 **O Father, with the'eternal Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one,  
we pray you, bring us by your grace to see your glory face to face.**

*\*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: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and your minds  
in † Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

*\*Sending Song – “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**



*\*Dismissal*

**P:** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Song Credits**

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**Worship Assistants**

Communion Assistant: Ken Devlin

Greeter: Hallie Mayner

Reader: Sharon Zuiderveld

Usher: Hallie Mayner

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Pianist: Jean Welch

Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen

Financial Assistants: Patty Nelson & Kay Schnitker

Chancel Committee: Kris Roth

Coffee Host: Karen Sibert

**Singers:**

Benen Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Kris Roth

Melissa Street

Kelly Hartz

Adam Krohe

Cole Street

Carol VanderKloot

**Church Council Members:**

Malinda Carlson

Marilyn Dichsen

Greg Kimler

Monica Proefrock

Ken Devlin

Kelly Hartz

Patty Nelson

Kay Schnitker

Kelly Street



**What’s Coming Up at Faith?**

Sunday, March 2, 9:30am: Worship

11:00am: Bible Study in the Justice Room

Wednesday, March 5, 7:00pm: Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, March 6, 3:00pm: Discipleship Core Team Meeting  
4:30pm: Administration Core Team Meeting  
6:00pm: Outreach Core Team Meeting

Sunday, March 9, 9:30am: Worship  
11:00am: Bible Study in the Justice Room  
4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp in the Great Room

Wednesday, March 12, 6:00pm: Lenten Meal  
7:00pm: Lenten Worship

Saturday, March 15 – Council Retreat

## **News Updates**

### **Faith's Little Flock**

This month, we will follow the Lenten worship themes. Faith's Little Flock is for children ages 2-7. We also welcome Big Kid Helpers (ages 8 and up) to help the little ones with the more difficult parts of the crafts, and our older adults to read the scripture story to the children. Contact Melissa Street if you would like to take a turn reading the story to the children. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered so far! The children all return to the sanctuary for the communion blessing. Word-finds, crossword puzzles, and other activity sheets are available in the gathering area for the older children (and adults) to help reinforce the message of the day. We look forward to seeing all of the children in March!

### **Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke**

Following worship, join Pastor Adam for a Bible study on Luke in the Justice Room. We will discuss the reading of the day, connect it to the gospel context, and reflect on its significance for us today.

### **Ash Wednesday Service – March 5, 7:00pm**

Join us as we begin the season of Lent by committing to the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, almsgiving. In a cross of ash on our foreheads, we receive a powerful reminder of our sin and mortality, but also the promise by which we receive forgiveness and life, the cross of Christ. Lenten Wednesday night meals and services begin on March 12.

### **Lenten Midweek Worship Schedule**

Our schedule has changed for midweek worship services this year – note that worship now begins at 7:00 p.m.

**March 12, 19, and 26**

Outreach Meal at 6:00 p.m.

Midweek Worship in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

### **Midweek Worship: “Pray without Ceasing”**

Our midweek worship services will focus on prayer and provide opportunities to pray without ceasing. We will worship in the sanctuary with a variety of music that invites us into prayer. There will be time for your own prayer and some reflections on the power of prayer in our lives. <sup>16</sup>*Rejoice always,* <sup>17</sup>*pray without ceasing,* <sup>18</sup>*give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.* – 1 Thess. 5:16-18

### **Midweek Supper and Worship with new “Outreach Meals”**

Our Lenten tradition continues with Wednesday night meals and worship, but with a significant change. The meals will no longer be pot-luck style but will be provided meals with a free-will offering. **Groups are invited to sign up for a Wednesday to provide the meal.** Faith will reimburse them \$200 in outreach funds to cover their cost. The group can select a charity to receive the funds, and all of the offering will go towards that ministry. Sign up your group and charity at the counter outside the Total Ministry Center. Join us for these wonderful outreach meals at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, and all are invited to chip in and help with clean up in the kitchen. Worship will start at 7:00 to make time for all to be ready after the meal.

### **Lenten Devotional Books**

Pick up your own devotional book to dig deeper into the weekly binaries that Jesus addresses in Luke’s gospel. In addition to scripture, each week includes commentary, poetry, visual art, hymns, and journaling prompts. Pair this book with your Bible as they accompany you through the Lenten season to the empty tomb.

### **Daily Devotional Cards**

Beginning with Ash Wednesday and continuing through the first few days of Eastertide, use these daily devotional cards with questions and prayers to deepen your spiritual walk through Lent. Day by day, may these prayers remind you that God is by your side, through your doubt, your faith, and everything in between.

### **Women of Faith**

Women of Faith is on hiatus during the season of Lent. Make plans to join us again in May for a special Mother’s Day event. More details coming soon!

### **Discipleship Group**

♥ Swing by the Faith Library at 10:00am on **Wednesday, March 19**, for a heartwarming chat all about LOVE and everything it brings. Have questions or need more info? Contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or email [khartz@sompo-intl.com](mailto:khartz@sompo-intl.com). Can't wait to see you!

## **Get to Know Our Youth**

For Sunday mornings during Lent, we are looking for volunteers to meet with our youth after worship. You can choose from a variety of options, from following a list of questions to share your faith and get to know each other better, use a discussion guide to reflect on the scripture of the day, work together in the kitchen for a meal, do a service project together at church or someone's home, or more. Sign up by the Total Ministry Center and enjoy getting to know our youth.

## **Meal Signup for Bible Boot Camp and Faith Inkubators**

We are looking for volunteers to provide meals when our children and youth meet on Sunday evenings. The meal is served from 5:30-6:00pm at the end of Bible Boot Camp and beginning of our youth night. Plates and utensils are available in the kitchen, and you are welcome to cook or heat the meal there as well. **If you can help, please sign up on the sheet located on the counter by the coat closet.** Thank You!

## **Bible Boot Camp**

Last Fall, we introduced Bible Boot Camp, a new program for elementary-school-aged children. Pastor Adam warms them up with singing, dancing, and some retelling of Bible stories from recent worship services. Patty Nelson and Shelley McDaniel lead them in some creative play and crafts, and then we all join with parents and older youth for a meal. **Our next events will be held on Sundays, March 9 and 16, and April 6 and 13, from 4:30-6:00.** Spread the word and bring a friend!

## **Faith Inkubators**

Our Faith Inkubators youth nights incorporate all the learning of confirmation, but also some games and activities so that it is open for some upper-elementary-aged kids that are up for the challenge and our high school youth to still be involved. **Future events are scheduled for Sundays, from 5:30-7:30.** The next date is **March 16.**

## **Music and Choir Opportunities at Faith**

At our recent listening session, we heard a desire for our choir to get back together. Our Music Director, Jean Welch, will be organizing a choir to sing on Easter and at our Living Last Supper worship, but there is one thing she needs... singers! If you would like to sing with us, contact Jean. We are also always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts. jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)