### THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 11, 2018

<u>Worship Focus</u> Jesus, Revealed – In His Divine Glory



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#### THE ORDER OF SERVICE

#### **Common Service**

#### Christian Worship, p. 15

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Text: Minsterisch Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677, abr.; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904. Tune: SCHONSTER HERR JESU (557-558) Silesian folk tune, 19th century, alt.

#### INVOCATION

<u>M</u>inister

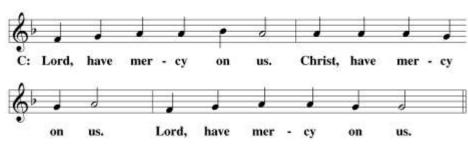
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



**Congregation** 

A - men.

- **M** Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.



#### LORD HAVE MERCY (Kyrie)

#### ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



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

O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night; Let those afar now hear your voice And in your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of your grace The souls now lost in error's maze And all whom in their secret minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds. (569:1,2)

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** The Lord be with you.



M Let us pray. Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### THE WORD

#### FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 2:1-12a

God's glory is revealed in the miracles surrounding Elijah's departure from this earth into heaven.

<sup>2KINGS 2:1</sup> When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel."

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

<sup>3</sup>The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "but do not speak of it."

<sup>4</sup> Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," he replied, "but do not speak of it."

<sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on.

<sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?"

"Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

<sup>10</sup> "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours--otherwise not."

<sup>11</sup> As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. <sup>12</sup> Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more.

#### PSALM

Sung by the choir

Psalm 148

 Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah, from the heavens praise his name; Praise the Lord, our great Creator; all his angels, praise proclaim. All his hosts, together praise him, sun and moon and stars on high; Praise the Lord, O heavens of heavens, and the floods above the sky.

#### Refrain

Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah, for his name alone is high, And his glory is exalted, and his glory is exalted, and his glory is exalted Far above the earth and sky.

- Let them praise the Lord their Maker: they were made at his command. God established them forever; his decree shall ever stand. Let the earth sing hallelujah: raging seas, you monsters all, fire and hail and snow and vapors, stormy winds that hear his call. Refrain
- 3. All you fruited trees and cedars, every hill and mountain high, Creeping things and beasts and cattle, birds that in the heavens fly, Kings of earth and all you people, princes great, earth's judges all; Praise his name, young men and maidens, aged men, and children small. Refrain

#### SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Paul extols the glory of the Gospel in comparison with the glory revealed in Moses after he received the Law on Mt. Sinai.

<sup>2 CORINTHIANS 3:12</sup> Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. <sup>13</sup> We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup> Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

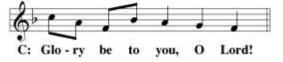
<sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

#### **VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Alleluia. (Mark 9:7b)

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



#### GOSPEL Mark 9:2-9

Jesus is transfigured in the presence of his disciples Peter, James, and John.

<sup>MARK 9:2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

<sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

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

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED**

C 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.



HYMN OF THE DAY

97 - Down from the Mount of Glory



Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905–96. © 1968 Werner H. Franzmann. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: ICH FREU MICH IN DEM HERREN (76 76 D) Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635.

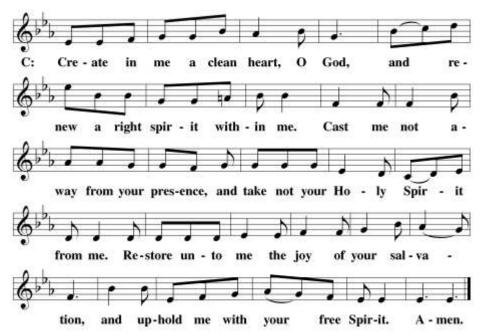
#### **SERMON**

Mark 9:2-9

#### **Bask in Jesus' Double Glory**

#### PRAISE AND PRAYER

#### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**



#### **FRIENDSHIP REGISTER**

#### **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

#### **MUSICAL OFFERTORY**

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs.

#### Brief silence

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in Your Son Your glory lived among us in human flesh and blood to bring to us eternal life. Open the eyes of all people to see the glory of God in the face of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Lover of the human race, Moses and Elijah appeared with the Savior in glory to witness that all the law and the prophets speak of Him. Give all pastors and servants of the Church such clarity in their teaching, that all who listen to them may hear the voice of the Savior calling them to life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Comforter of the sorrowing, You alone can bring peace that passes understanding to aching hearts. Remember all who are ill, hospitalized, lonely, afflicted or dying *[especially Your servants \_\_\_\_\_\_ and those we name in our hearts]*. Assure them of Your presence and peace and, if it be Your will, let them experience healing and relief. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Immortal One, You raised Your Son from the dead by Your life-giving Spirit, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters who share in His endless life and glory. Receive our thanks for Moses, Elijah, Peter, James, John and all who have fallen asleep in our Savior's faith and friendship. Bring us to behold with them the fullness of His glory in the age to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant to us, all-glorious Trinity, for You are a good God and You love Your whole creation. To You we give all glory, honor and worship: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever! **Amen.** 

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

**SERMON HYMN** 

#### 96 - Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair



Text: Latin hymn, 15th century; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: DEO GRACIAS (LM) English melody, 15th century.



[12]

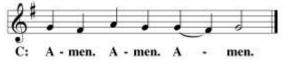
#### PRAYER AND BLESSING

**M** Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



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.



#### FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

"Alleluia," or "Hallelujah," is one of the few Hebrew words adopted by the Christian Church from apostolic times. It means "Praise the Lord!" Through a series of liturgical changes and adaptations, the "Alleluia" was wedded to the Verse of the Day and stands as one of the regular sung responses of the people. There is an ancient tradition in the Western Church to discontinue this hallowed exclamation of joy and praise during the season of Lent in recognition of Lent's solemnity and penitential character. The "Alleluia" traditionally returns during the Easter vigil service (Saturday night before Easter). At Calvary, the "Alleluia" triumphantly returns on Easter morning, that time of exuberant joy in the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Today, in our final act of corporate worship before Lent, we sing "Farewell to Alleluia." It is sung to the familiar Henry Purcell tune entitled "Westminster Abbey."

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. 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.

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.

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!

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.



# Alleluia



He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

Matthew 17:2, ESV

## Lent and Holy Week



On Wednesday evenings during Lent, together with Holy Week, we will focus on Jesus, Our Great High Priest. Dates and themes for those services are as follows:

Wednesday/Festival (Date)	Worship Theme
Ash Wednesday (February 14)	Jesus Is Our Great High Priest
Lenten Service (February 21)	Jesus Is Our Perfect High Priest
Lenten Service (February 28)	Jesus Is Our Compassionate High Priest
Lenten Service (March 7)	Jesus Is Our Self-Sacrificing High Priest
Lenten Service (March 14)	Jesus Our Great High Priest Serves at a Great Altar
Lenten Service (March 21)	Jesus Our Great High Priest Makes Us Priests
Palm Sunday (March 25)	Jesus Is Our Priest After the Order of Melchizedek
Maundy Thursday (March 29)	Jesus Our Great High Priest Is Mediator of the New Covenant
Good Friday (March 30)	Jesus Our Great High Priest Is Better Than Any Other High Priest
Easter Sunday (April 1)	Jesus Is Our Eternal High Priest