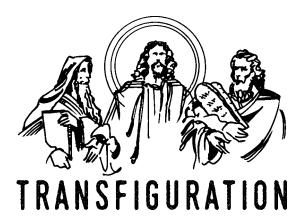
THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 26, 2017

Worship Focus
Jesus Reveals His Divine Glory



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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

370 - All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–92, st. 1-3, abr., alt.; A Selection of Hymns, London, 1787, st. 4-5, alt. Tune: CORONATION (86 86 86) Oliver Holden, 1765–1844.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the

fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C Amen.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

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

O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings, To you in heaven's glory bright The song of praise forever rings. To him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again, Be all the glory he has won, All thanks and praise! Amen, Amen. (85:1)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- 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.
- C Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Exodus 24:12, 15-18

Long before appearing with Jesus on the Mount, Moses had experienced the Glory of the Lord.

EXODUS 24:12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction."

¹⁵ When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, ¹⁶ and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. ¹⁷ To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. ¹⁸ Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

PSALM Psalm 148

Refrain Tune: J. Robert Carroll. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Pastor will sing the first line of each verse. The congregation will sing the second line, the refrain, and the Gloria.





Praise the LORD from the | <u>heavens</u>,* **praise him in the** | <u>heights</u> **above.**

Praise him, all his | angels,*
praise him, all his | heavenly hosts.

Praise him, | <u>sun</u> and moon,* **praise him, all you** | <u>shin</u>ing stars.

Refrain

Praise the LORD | <u>from</u> the earth,* **lightning and hail, stormy winds that do his** | **bidding**,

you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all | <u>ce</u>dars,* wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and | flying birds,

kings of the earth and all rul | <u>ers</u> on earth,* **young men and maidens, old men and** | <u>chil</u>dren.

Let them praise the name | of the LORD,* for his splendor is above the earth and the | heavens.

Glory be to the Father and | <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy | <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be | <u>gin</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. | <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON 2 Peter 1:16-21

Peter was an eyewitness to the glory manifested by Jesus on the mountain.

^{2 PETER 1:16} 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. ¹⁷ 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." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ 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.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure. (332:2)

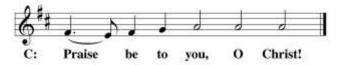
GOSPEL Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration of Jesus.

MATTHEW 17:1 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

- ⁴Peter 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."
- ⁵ 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!"
- ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.
- ⁹ 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."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





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SERMON

Matthew 17:1-9

It's Good, Lord, to be Here

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.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day. We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.
- C Hear us, good Lord.
- M You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature. We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.
- C Hear us, good Lord.
- M Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them. Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.
- C Hear us, good Lord.
- M Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being. Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.
- C Hear us, good Lord.
- M We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory. We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight.
- C 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.



The hymn writer reminds us that the glimpse of glory seen in Jesus' transfiguration foreshadows the ultimate glory of Christ displayed at Calvary, hidden under the cross.

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PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

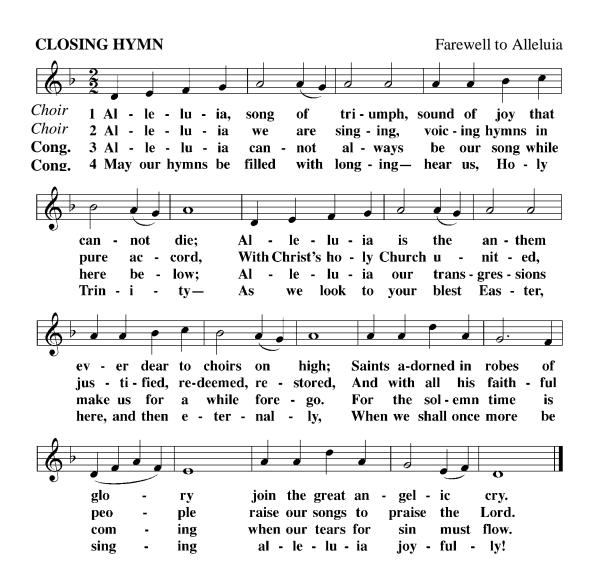
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



Benediction



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