

LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 14, 2021

Worship Focus

“The Mysterious Jesus” – An Overwhelming Gaze



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Order of Service for THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Common Service

Christian Worship, p. 15

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OPENING HYMN

369 – Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
Robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
Bright the spar - kling stars on high;
Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, Tru - ly I'd serve thee,
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er;
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o - ra - tion



Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.
He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
Than all the an - gels in the sky.
Now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

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

INVOCATION

Minister 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*)



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

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.



C: A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so 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.



C: A - men.



✘ 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.

² KINGS 2:1 When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah 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.

³The 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.”

⁴Then 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.

⁵The 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.”

⁶Then 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.

⁷Fifty 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. ⁸Elijah 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.

⁹When 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.

¹⁰“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.”

¹¹As 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.

¹²Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more.

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.

²CORINTHIANS 3:12 Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. ¹³We 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. ¹⁴But 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. ¹⁵Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And 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.

^{4:1}Therefore, since through God’s mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart.

²Rather, 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

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

MARK 9:2 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. ³His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter 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.” ⁶(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

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

⁹As 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:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



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



1 Down from the mount of glo - ry Came Je - sus
2 Trans - fig - ured, Christ, the low - ly, Stood ra - diant
3 Yet mark this glo - ry hid - den! See him the
4 Strange how his jour - ney end - ed! In love that
5 Then hail the dou - ble glo - ry Of Je - sus



Christ, our Lord. Re - call the won - drous sto - ry,
in the light, Light found in God - head sole - ly,
mount de - scend And, by the Fa - ther bid - den,
is his fame Our Lord a - gain as - cend - ed
Christ, our Lord, And let the won - drous sto - ry



Rich gem in sa - cred Word. A - gain your faith will
 For hu - man eyes too bright. Then came a voice from
 His will - ing foot - steps bend To seek hu - mil - i -
 A mount - the hill of shame. Up - on the cross he
 Full peace and joy af - ford! The ho - ly mount ac -



view him In dou - ble glo - ry here; The great - er
 heav - en, Con - firmed what here we see; The words "my
 a - tion In deep - est depths of woe, To suf - fer
 prof - fered Him - self to ag - o - ny; His ho - ly
 claims him The maj - es - ty di - vine; Mount Cal - va -



hom - age due him Will in your life ap - pear.
 Son" were giv - en To seal his de - i - ty.
 deg - ra - da - tion No mind can probe or know.
 soul he of - fered To set the guilt - y free.
 ry pro - claims him Re - deem - er—yours and mine.

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

It Is All About the Glory... Just Not Yet

Sermon Notes:

✠ Praise and Prayers ✠

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT and MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the baptized, that we would heed our heavenly Father's admonition to listen to His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, as He speaks to us through His Holy Word and Sacraments; and that we would, by grace through faith, behold Him in His glory as He continues to deliver forgiveness, life and salvation through the same, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are called and ordained to serve in Christ's stead and by His command, that all their preaching and teaching would flow from the right understanding that all Holy Scripture testifies of Christ and all that He has done, and continues to do, for our eternal salvation, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For parents in every Christian home, that they would pass on the faith to their children by word and deed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who have been placed in authority over us, that they would serve with integrity and honor, having the welfare of all in mind; and for our country, that division, conflict and strife would give way to unity, peace and quietness, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those gathered in this congregation, that we would be granted faithfulness, humility and patience in our various vocations, striving to love God and neighbor in all that we say and do, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who are sick, hospitalized, recovering, enduring ongoing treatment or suffering in any way, [*especially...*] that they would know Your peace and receive healing and relief according to Your gracious will; and for those who mourn, [*especially...*] that they would be comforted by the certain hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Him, with Him and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, forever and ever. **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

79 - How Lovely Shines the Morning Star



1 How love - ly shines the Morn-ing Star! The na - tions see and
2 O high - est joy by mor - tals won, True Son of God and
3 O might - y Fa - ther, in your Son You loved me ere you
4 Oh, joy to know that you, my Friend, Are Lord, be - gin - ning
5 Lift up the voice and strike the string, Let all glad sounds of



hail a - far The light in Ju - dah shin - ing.
Mar - y's Son, The high - born King of a - ges!
had be - gun This an - cient world's foun - da - tion.
with - out end, The first and last, e - ter - nal!
mu - sic ring In God's high prais - es blend - ed.

O Da - vid's Son of Ja - cob's race, My Bride-groom
 In your blest bod - y let me be, E'en as the
 Your Son has made a friend of me, And when in
 And you at length— O glo - rious grace— Will take me
 Christ will be with me all the way, To - day, to -

and my King of grace, For you my heart is pin - ing.
 branch is in the tree, Your life my life sup - ply - ing.
 spir - it him I see, I joy in trib - u - la - tion.
 to that ho - ly place, The home of joys su - per - nal.
 mor - row, ev - 'ry day Till trav - 'ling days are end - ed.

Low - ly, Ho - ly, Great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious
 Sigh - ing, Cry - ing For the sa - vor Of your fa - vor
 What bliss Is this! He is liv - ing, To me giv - ing
 A - men, A - men! Come and meet me, Quick - ly greet me!
 Sing out, Ring out Tri - umph glo - rious, O vic - to - rious

Prince of gra - ces, Fill - ing all the heav'n - ly pla - ces.
 Rest - ing nev - er Till I rest in you for - ev - er.
 Life for - ev - er; Noth - ing me from him can sev - er.
 With deep yearn - ing, Lord, I look for your re - turn - ing.
 Chos - en na - tion; Praise the God of your sal - va - tion.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
 Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

SENDING PRAYER

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.

C: A - - men.

BLESSING

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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

**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!**