

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Sunday, February 11, 2024

9:30 AM

INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

PRELUDE

Solemn Processional

by Robert A. Harris

+ Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,

and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
 To you be given honor and praise
 through Jesus Christ our Lord
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*The congregation may turn
 and face the processional cross.
 Thy Strong Word (ELW 511)*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
 4 From the cross thy wis - dom shin - ing break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
 night and deep as death, broke the light of thy sal -
 thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
 forth in con - qu'ring might; from the cross for - ev - er



thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 va - tion, breathed thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 beam - eth all thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
 tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
 throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 mouths to speak thy holy name.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 May the light which thou dost send
 fill our songs with alleluias,
 alleluias without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator,
 to thee laud and honor be.
 To thee, Light of Light begotten,
 praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 glory, glory be to thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 praise the holy Trinity!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

GLORIA



Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together,

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

+ Word +

READING

2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from Second Kings.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 50:1-6

The congregation sings the refrain and the verses in bold.

Psalm Refrain

Out of Zi - on, per - fect in beau - ty,
 God shines forth in glo - ry.

Psalm 50:2

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Psalm Tone

Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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¹The mighty one, God the ¹LORD, has spoken;
 calling the earth from the rising of the sun ¹ to its setting.
²**Out of Zion, perfect ¹ in its beauty,**
God shines ¹ forth in glory.
³Our God will come and will ¹ not keep silence;
 with a consuming flame before, and round about a ¹ raging storm.
⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth ¹ from above**
to witness the judgment ¹ of the people.
⁵“Gather before me my ¹ loyal followers,
 those who have made a covenant with me and sealed ¹ it with sacrifice.”
⁶**The heavens declare the rightness ¹ of God’s cause,**
for it is God ¹ who is judge.

Refrain

READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

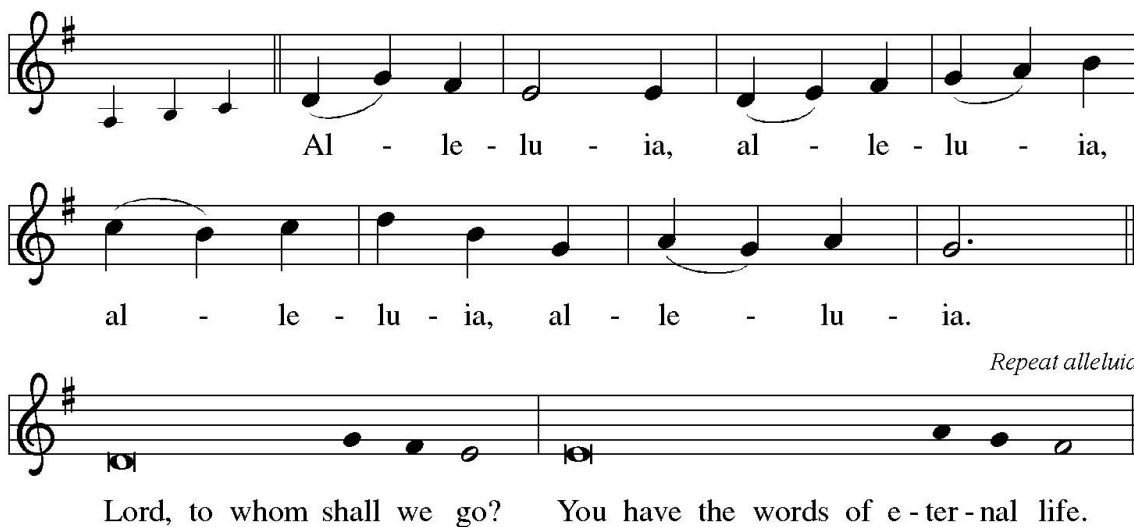
A reading from Second Corinthians.

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The congregation may stand and face the cross.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
 Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Repeat Alleluia.

SERMON

The congregation may be seated.

Vicar Alex Linn

HYMN OF THE DAY

The congregation may be stand.

Jesus on the Mountain Peak (ELW 317)



1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in
2 Trem-bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -
3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came, God pro - claim - ing
4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets



glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,
li - jah speak - ing. All the proph-ets and the law
in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!
sing be - fore him, first and last and on - ly One.



join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.
shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:
Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der:
All cre - a - tion shall a - dore him!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

INSTALLATION OF MINISTER OF YOUTH & FAMILY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. You may assume a posture of prayer through standing, kneeling, or sitting. Let us pray.

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for any who are sick and suffering. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Almighty and ever-living God, as you called apostles and evangelists, pastors and teachers to instruct, comfort, admonish, and care for us, so you have called Evergreen Edwards. Fill them with wisdom and patience, with love, and with faithfulness to your word, that they may with gladness teach, comfort, counsel, and guide your people to maturity. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

People of God, for what else shall we pray this day? Your prayers are invited now, either silently or aloud. (*Pause for prayers.*) God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died (*especially*). Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

The congregation may be seated.

+ Meal +

OFFERTORY

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

I want to walk as a child of the light
I want to follow Jesus
God sent 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

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

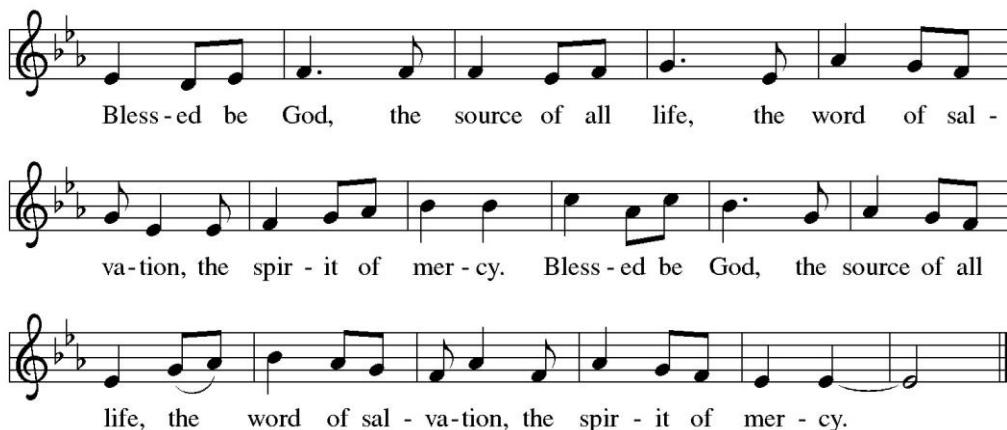
Refrain

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

OFFERTORY VERSE

The congregation may stand.
Blessed Be God, the Source of All Life



Bless - ed be God, the source of all life, the word of sal -
va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy. Bless - ed be God, the source of all
life, the word of sal - va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy.

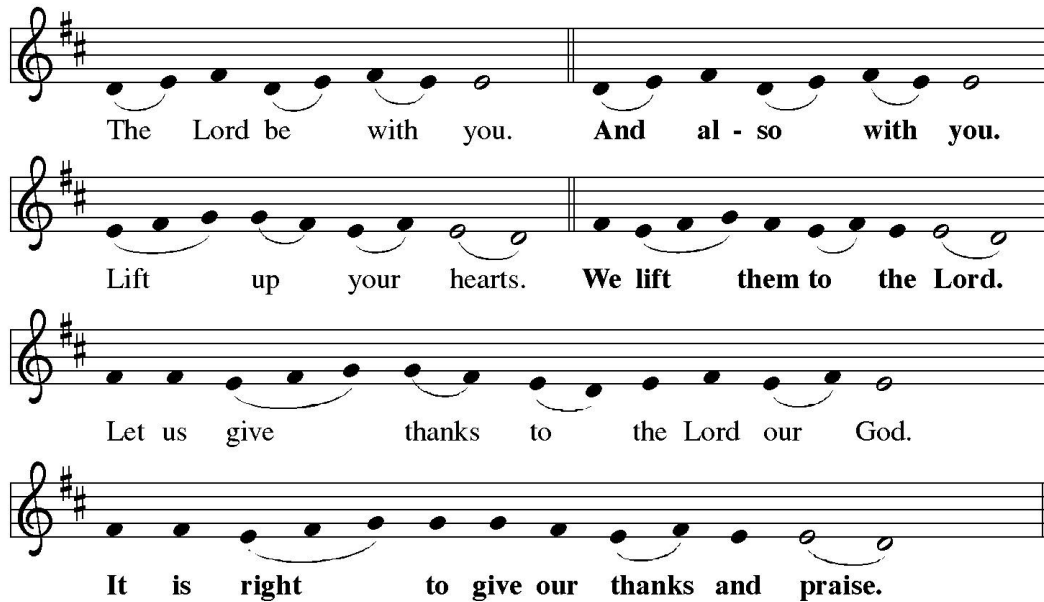
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

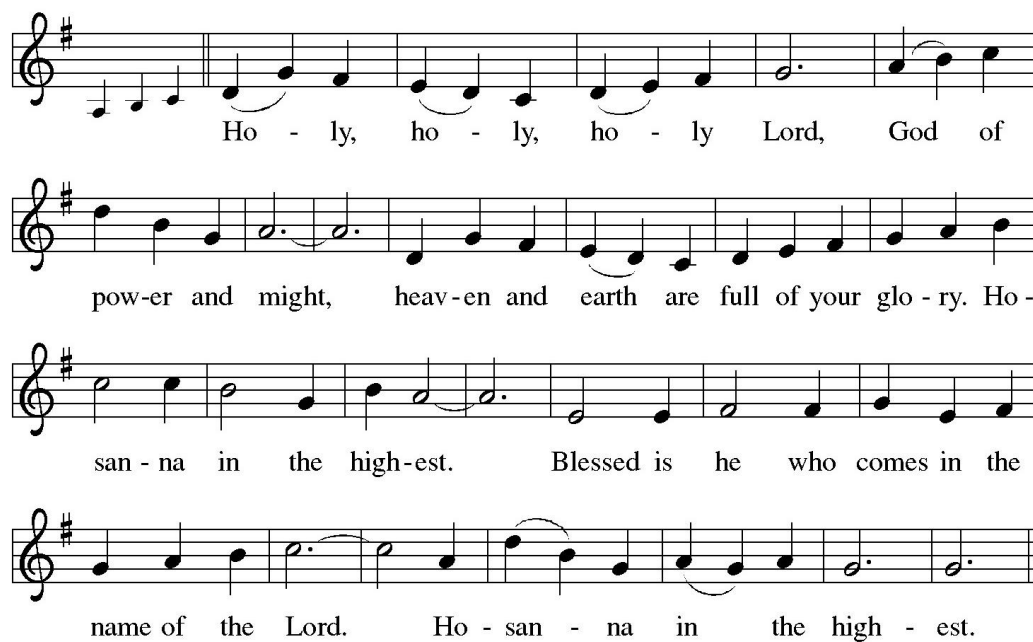


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

“... we praise your name and join their un-ending hymn:”

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



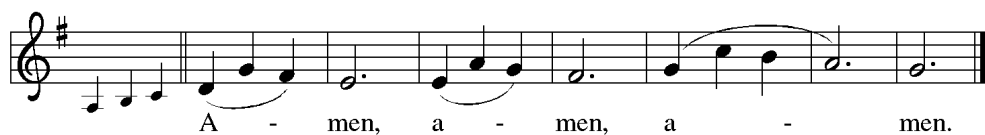
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,

we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us in the many and varied languages we hold dear...

**Our God 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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION

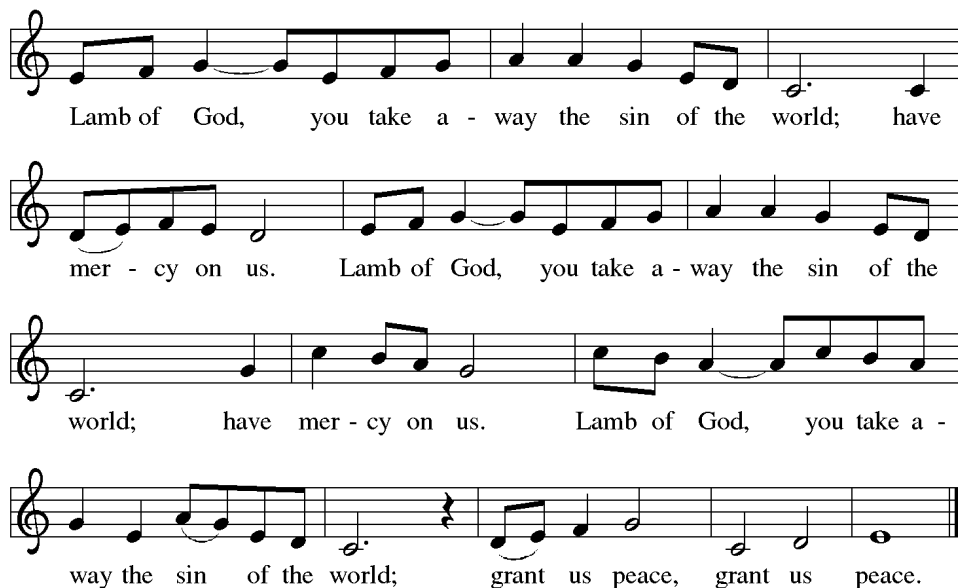
Taste and see that the Lord is good. Come, for Christ first welcomed us.

COMMUNION

The congregation may be seated.

All are welcome to commune at Christ's table without exception! If you are online, serve yourself or those worshipping with you by saying, "The body of Christ, given for you," and, "The blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are communing in person, please proceed down the center aisle at the direction of an usher. You may receive bread or request a gluten-free wafer. A glass of wine (dark colored) will be placed on the table for you, or you may request grape juice (light colored). After drinking, please place your empty glass in the basket before returning to your seat via the side aisle. If you would prefer to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please inform an usher, and the sacrament will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



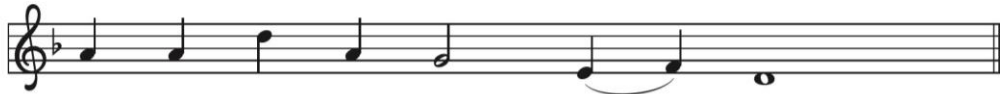
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
 Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The congregation may stand.

Let us pray together.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

+ Sending +

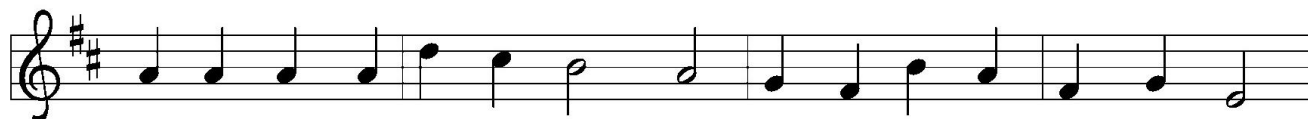
BENEDICTION

Transfigured and transformed by water and word,
go forth in the name of the one who is, was, and is to come,
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Holy Spirit
Blessed Trinity † one God, both now and forever.

Amen

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Alleluia, Song of Gladness (ELW 318)



- 1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
- 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
- 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
- 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth - er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

King of Kings

arr. by Ralph Simpson

Worship materials adapted this day from multiple ecumenical partners including and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (2023).

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- Scripture readings from the NRS

SERVING TODAY

<i>Interim:</i>	Vicar Alex Linn
<i>Assisting Minister:</i>	Jason Shutters
<i>Director of Music:</i>	Luke Duroc-Danner
<i>Cantor:</i>	Audrey Neace
<i>Crucifer:</i>	Nick Danielsen
<i>Torch Bearers:</i>	Claire Radde, Jillian Radde
<i>Readers:</i>	Bronwyn Parhad, Sam Novak,
<i>Usher:</i>	Peter Hauser
<i>Communion Assistant:</i>	Caroline Novak
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Susan Crist
<i>Livestream Camera:</i>	Josh Flachsbart

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children's In-Service Sunday

Today the children will be taking on various roles in the worship service.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class concludes their winter session today. Class will meet at Grace Lutheran Church in Evanston, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. The class is currently studying Luther's Small Catechism.

Family Promise

Today we welcome Executive Director of Family Promise Chicago North Shore, Tracy McKeithen. She is joining us at the beginning of worship and will share lots of information about Family Promise, how the program works, and how our St. John's community can help. She will also be doing a training for interested volunteers during coffee hour. Our Family Promise host week will take place **Sunday, February 25-Saturday, March 2.**

Call Committee Reminder

All completed Call Process Surveys, which was made available to you last week, are due **now**. You can either complete it using the link in your e-news, or complete a paper copy available on the table in the gathering area and place it in the designated box. Please ask each member of your household that is interested, complete a survey. We are looking for as many points of view as possible.

Tuesday Bible Study

Bible study meets on Tuesday mornings, 11am-12:00pm. with Vicar Alex Linn. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Helping Migrant Families

St. John's members can help by dropping off coats, hats, gloves, scarves, pants, and boots in designated boxes inside the **Wilmette Metra Station** at 722 Green Bay Road. The greatest needs are for children's outdoor clothing. Our donations will help migrants stay warm and feel acknowledged as they make their way to the Chicago Welcoming Center.

IN OUR PRAYERS

- † Buckley Crist
- † Family & friends of Peter Knobel, who died 1/13/24
- † Dottye Wolf, sister of Margye Smith
- † Rena Leinberger, cancer diagnosis 11/12/23
- † Family and Friends of Hing You Tam Siu, mother-in-law of Jim Dossa, who passed away
- † Family & friends of Viola Gonder, mother of Craig Gonder, who died 8/7/23
- † Congratulations to Dano Johnson & Emily Mock, who were married June 17, 2023
- † Family & friends of Richard Rusz, who died 6/6/23
- † Family & friends of Karen Daugherty, aunt of Erin Rasmussen, who died 5/8/23
- † Family & friends of Joan Schinler, who died 5/5/23
- † Sarah Rink, hospitalized after a fall 3/8/23
- † Family & friends of Ruby Winter, who died 1/10/23
- † Steve Morrison, son of Tom & Judy Morrison, recovering from back surgery 1/1/23
- † Family & friends of Marge Bennett, loved one of Kristen Danielsen, who died 11/17/22
- † Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- † Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing
- † Karen Brunn, daughter of Dave & Lyn Brunn, recovering from spinal cord injury
- † Mindy Davis, seeking permanent housing, 2/23/22
- † Lorraine Beutelspacher, moved to new home in Arizona 2/3/23

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

Robert A. Harris (b. 1938) is an American conductor, composer, and music educator born in Detroit. He is a Professor Emeritus at Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music, and he served as Director of Choral organizations and Professor of Conducting at Bienen from 1977-2012. Active as a conductor, composer, clinician, lecturer and adjudicator, he has also held guest professorships in conducting at Wayne State University in Detroit, the University of Texas in Austin, and the University of South Africa in Pretoria. Harris earned his doctorate degree in Composition and Theory from Michigan State University. Internationally, Dr. Harris served as one of two guest conductors and clinicians for the Taipei Philharmonic Choral and Conducting Workshop in the Republic of China. He also acted as guest conductor for Korea's premier professional choir, the Incheon City Chorale, guest conductor of a Choral Festival Youth Chorale in Hong Kong. Dr. Harris served for three years as a member of the Choral Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts, and locally he held the position of Director of Music and Choir Director at the Winnetka Congregational Church.

Ralph Simpson (1993-2024) is an American organist and teacher. Born in Birmingham, he enlisted in the US Army following high school and he served as the organist for the Chaplain. He later enrolled in Alabama State College, and he later earned a Master's Degree in Music at Columbia University as well as a Ph.D. at Michigan State University. He went on to hold the position of Church Organist at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church where the Honorable Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was Pastor, and he held several positions at Alabama State University, Dillard University, and Tennessee State University where he was also Chair Emeritus of the Department of Music. Over his career, he made many recordings as both accompanist and soloist, and he wrote many arrangements for performance by either himself or his students - many of which have yet to be published.