

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, HANOVER, PA**

Rev. E. Robert Burkhart, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023**

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**Prayer of the Day**

Leader: O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Cong.: Amen.**

**The First Reading: Exodus 24:12–18**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

<sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

## **The Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16–21**

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

## **The Gospel: Matthew 17:1–9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

## Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their need.

*(A brief silence.)*

Leader: Gracious God, you revealed your glory to your people on Mount Sinai, now teach us to show forth your glory in our missions and ministries. Make us your light of justice, kindness, and mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

**Cong.: hear our prayer.**

Leader: You, Lord, created humankind in your image and set us to the work of caring for your creation. Grow in us a passion for stewardship, and transform our lives to be reflections of your love. Lord, in your mercy,

**Cong.: hear our prayer.**

Leader: You, Lord, equip your shepherds to care for your people. Give them hearts for compassion and mercy, and guide them to be faithful to your will and ways. Lord, in your mercy,

**Cong.: hear our prayer.**

Leader: You, Lord, care for the widow, and the orphan, and you grant your grace to all who call on your Holy Name. Let your peace fall fully on all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, and especially upon all those we lift before you now in the earnest prayers of our hearts. (P A U S E) Lord, in your mercy,

**Cong.: hear our prayer.**

Leader: You, Lord, invite us into your house of worship. Teach us to invite others into discipleship, and give us courage to speak the truth of your Gospel into every darkness in this world. Lord, in your mercy,

**Cong.: hear our prayer.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered.)*

Leader: You, Lord, reach out your hand to bring the faithful to eternal life. Grant us faith to trust in your promises of life with you in your heavenly kingdom, and teach us to be your faithful servants in this world, until by your call, we are joined before your throne, with all the saints who have gone before us. Lord, in your mercy,

**Cong.: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Cong.: Amen.**