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March 2, 2025

Transfiguration of Our Lord, Year C



+ The **Service of Word** is celebrated occasionally in many places. Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we hear and proclaim the saving word of God for all the world. We give thanks for that saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need. Since Pastor D.J. is gone today and Intern Yvonne is preaching and leading worship, we will share in this service format this morning.

In our every-day lives, Christ comes to us especially through God's Word inspired by the Holy Spirit. As it is written in John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Jesus Christ is that very Word who became flesh and lived among us, and just as we experience his presence and grace through the sacraments, we also are moved by him through sharing in Scripture, liturgy, and song together in worship. So come, let's praise the Lord together! +

Ringing of Bell

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- V: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

 our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.
- C: Amen.
- V: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

 Silence is kept for reflection.
- V: Merciful God.
- C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

V God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In

☐ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

HYMN Arise, Your Light Has Come! No. 314

- 1 Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.
- 2 Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.
- 3 Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born, bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.
- 4 Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

PRAYER OF THE DAY We pray together

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

C: Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated for the readings

FIRST READING: EXODUS 34:29-35

Moses comes down from Mt. Sinai, his face shining.

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.

³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. THANKS BE TO GOD.

PSALM 99 We read responsively

The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples. Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them.

You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

SECOND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:12—4:2

With unveiled faces we see the Lord's glory as we are transformed.

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with complete frankness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. 14 But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, the same veil is still there; it is not unveiled since in Christ it is set aside. 15 Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds, ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. THANKS BE TO GOD.

♦ THE HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 9:28-36

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain.

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." not realizing what he was saying. 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S WORD

MESSAGE Vicar Yvonne Godfrey-Roesel Kenyon Area Intern

HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 315

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

- 1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 How good, Lord, to be here! your beauty to behold where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.
- 3 Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be, we hail your body glorified and our redemption see.
- 4 Before we taste of death, we see your kingdom come; we long to hold the vision bright and make this hill our home.

5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

♦ NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our prayer.

SHARING OF PEACE

V: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please be seated
OFFERTORY—OFFERING—GLOBE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

V: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

C: Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

V: Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

V: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, C: we give you thanks and praise.

V: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

V: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

V: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN Beautiful Savior No. 838

- 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparking stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

CLOSING PRAYER

V: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.

C: Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

V: The Spirit of the triune God ⊕ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **C: Amen.**

♦ HYMN

No. 815

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set 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.

- 2 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
- 3 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

Ringing of Bell

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDER—Kenyon Area Intern Yvonne Godfrey-Roesel WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Tammy Fletcher ORGANIST—Tammy Hanson ACOLYTE—Avery Tupa COMMUNION SET-UP—Erica Aronson GREETERS—Erica Aronson COMMUNION SERVERS—Erica Aronson, Tammy Fletcher, Ed Fletcher COFFEE SERVER—Spidahls TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lerfald, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Dick Overby, Dax Eggert, Hannah Michelsen, Larry Walker.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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OL/SKU #00361 / Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW 815

OL/SKU#08411 Arise, Your Light Has Come! ELW 314

Conta

GET—ORGAN—IZED ORGAN FUND GARAGE SALE SATURDAY MARCH 29 SEE FLYER FOR DONATION DETAILS.

Contacts: Susan Hoversten 907-854-5959 or Christine Ersland 507-319-4754

MEN OF FIRST LUTHERAN



You are invited to join our Men's Ministry group. This group can center around a Bible study, service work, social gatherings, etc. To express your interest in joining this group, please fill out the form linked here: https://forms.gle/VuSUL faGKkraX4tX6

THRIVENT MEMBERS: If you have a \$250 Action Team Grant available, please contact Bryana Lothert to discuss how this money could be used to support children and youth ministry here at First Lutheran.

CALENDAR

Su 3-2	9 am Worship - Transfiguration
	10 AM Sun. School
	10 AM Coffee
Tu 3-4	Noon to 1 Open Prayer Time in the
	Sanctuary
We 3-5	ASH WEDNESDAY
	5:30 Soup Supper
	6:30 Worship
Thu 3-6	Pastor at Continuing Ed
	7 PM AA
Sat 3-8	9-3 Council as Ldrs/Trinity-Owatonna
Sun 3-9	9 AM WORSHIP – 1ST SUN IN LENT
	10 AM Sun. School
	10 AM Coffee
	10 AM Interest Mtg on visiting Columbia

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