

## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620 www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

## February 11, 2024 + Transfiguration of Our Lord

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.

#### + GATHERING +

#### **Prelude**

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

#### Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





# The Transfiguration Of Our Lord

## **Confession & Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light as he is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus Christ, his son, cleanses us from all sin.

Today we see our Lord Jesus Christ in unveiled glory, a foretaste of the glory of our own resurrection.

(Silence is kept for self-reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God,

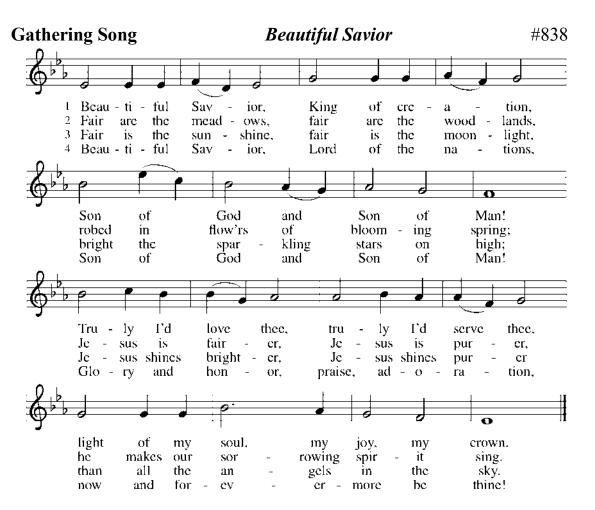
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. Our eyes are clouded and our understanding veiled. Our lives are full of shameful things; we stand in need of light. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and let your light shine upon us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Jesus Christ, who died for you and rose again, is God's beloved Son. Listen to him and behold his glory.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

2



Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904 Music: Silesian folk tunem 19<sup>th</sup> cent. Public Domain

## **Opening Litany**

In a dazzling display, O Lord, you revealed who you were at the Transfiguration.

You glowed and you shone to show us that you came from heaven.

You appeared with Elijah the prophet to announce that you were the One the prophets had spoken about for centuries.

You appeared with Moses, who led the Israelites out of Egyptian captivity, to declare to us that we would be saved from our bondage to sin.

You were surrounded by the voice of God to make it loud and clear that you were sent by him.

You were standing high on a mountain to make it known that you would soon ascend to heaven.

Yet you got down off that mountain to make it known that you were here to suffer and to die for us.

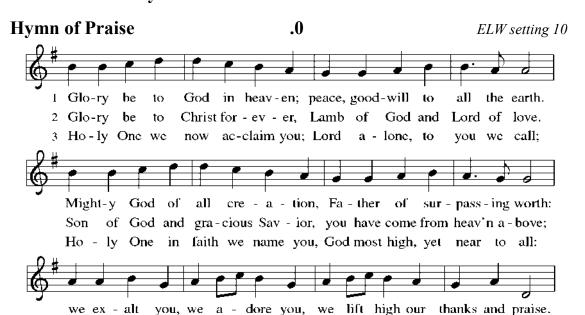
Transfigured Lord, continue to make yourself known to us day after day.

## **Apostolic Greeting**

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The wisdom of God the Father, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

on the cross you died to

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it,



save us; now you reign at

God's right hand.

in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...
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.

#### + WORD +

## First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

#### A reading from Second Kings.

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah 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. <sup>3</sup>The 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."

<sup>4</sup>Elijah 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. <sup>5</sup>The 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.

<sup>6</sup>Then 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. <sup>7</sup>Fifty 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.

<sup>9</sup>When 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." <sup>10</sup>He 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." <sup>11</sup>As 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. <sup>12</sup>Elisha 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 50:1-6

Let us read Psalm 50 responsively.

<sup>1</sup>The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

<sup>2</sup>Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God shines forth in glory.

<sup>3</sup>Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

<sup>4</sup>God calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of the people.

<sup>5</sup>"Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>The heavens declare the rightness of God's cause, for it is God who is judge.

## **Second Reading**

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

A reading from Second Corinthians.

<sup>3</sup>Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In 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. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For 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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel Mark 9:2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> Chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>Six 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, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then 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." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. <sup>9</sup>As 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.

### Children's Time Sermon

we

but



Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

Music: W. Mercer, The Church Psalter and Hymn Book, 1854

glo - ri - fied

and our re-demp-tion

vi - sion bright and make this hill

leave the mount, come with us

sec.

home.

plain.

Public Domain

hail your bod - y

long to hold the

since you bid us

#### **Installation of Council Members and Officers**

The following persons, having been elected by the congregation or appointed by the council to positions of leadership, are asked to come forward as their offices and names are read:

Nancy Ahlers
Kay Flanagan
Chris Nelson
Tammy Reigle
Roberta Seda
Mary Kay Tisthammer

Connie Becker
Jim Meyers
Sara Rasmussen
Amber Salwei
Josh Thayer

In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated us from sin and death and made us members of his Church.

Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith.

I ask you, together with all who have gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. St. Paul writes:

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served.

There are different abilities to perform services,

but the same God gives to everyone the ability for particular service.

The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all. (I Corinthians 12:4-7)

You have been elected and appointed to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect Him in whose name we gather.

You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation, and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world.

You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified.

You are to be examples of Faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:

Are you ready to accept and faithfully carry out
the duties of the offices to which you have been elected & appointed?

Leaders: Yes, by the help of God.

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your congregational leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

Congregation: Yes, by the help of God.

I now declare you installed as council members and officers of this congregation. God bless you with His Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

Congregation: Amen.

## **Prayers of the People**

P As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

- A 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.
- P 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.**
- A 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.

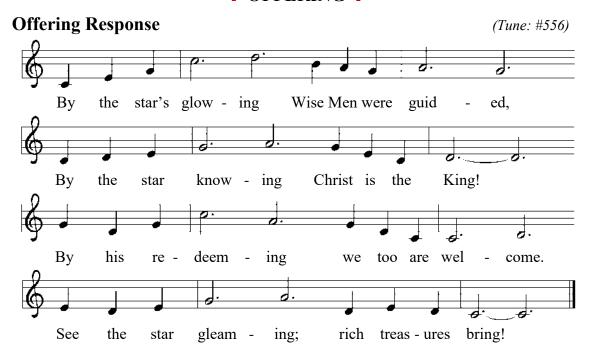
  God of grace, **receive our prayer.**
- P We pray for any who are sick and suffering, especially... Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**
- A We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**
- P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence... God of grace, **receive our prayer.**
- A 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. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace, receive our prayer.

P 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.** 

#### **Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

#### + OFFERING +



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#### + MEAL +

## **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. And also 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.



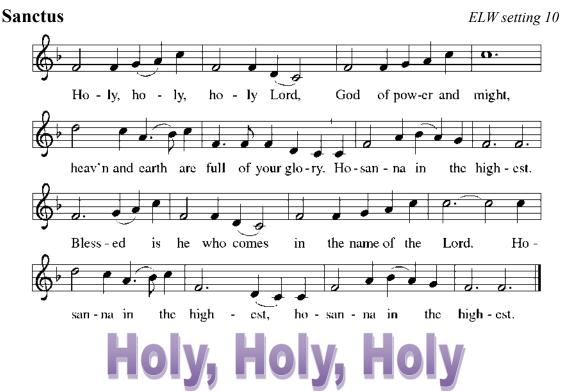
## **Proper Preface**

Creating and liberating God,
you called your people into covenant with you
and sealed your trust with Moses on the mountain;
you called your people back to that covenant through your prophets
and spoke in a still small voice to Elijah on a mountain.

Then, in your Son Jesus, you stood on a mountain between the Law and the Prophets and revealed the radiance of your gospel.

On Calvary's hill your Son redeemed us by the blood of your new covenant, and on the mountain in Galilee he ascended to your right hand on high.

And so, we gladly thank you, celebrating your glory with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, dazzled by your face and singing the hymn of your unending praise.



## **Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution**

Dazzling God, you set up your tent and make your dwelling among us. Abide with us now through the power of your Holy Spirit, that your people may become a temple of your presence, and these gifts of bread and wine may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them saying,

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Drink this, all of you, this my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Transfiguring God, it is good for us to be here.

Through this holy sacrament make us your sons and daughters, and be close to all children who have no one to share your love and mercy with them.

Make us your beloved, and visit all who have no one to call them beloved. Give us grace to listen to your voice, and bring to your heart any who have no one to listen to them. Surround us with your prophetic company and take us up into the whirlwind of your glory, until the day comes when the waters of the Jordan are parted and the heavens opened and the chariots bring us home to you, ever one God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

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.



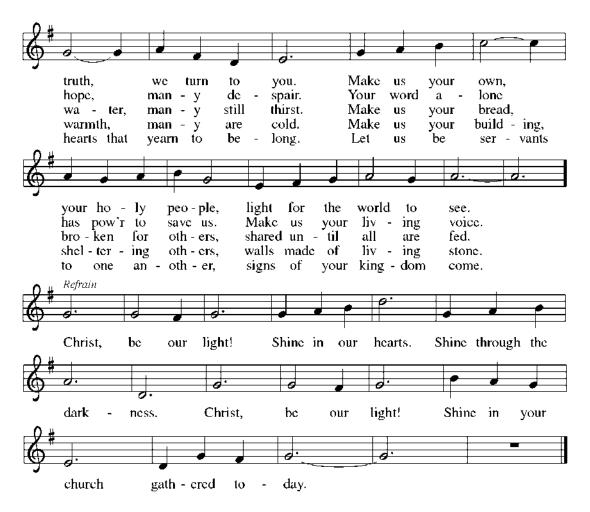
#### **Distribution**

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

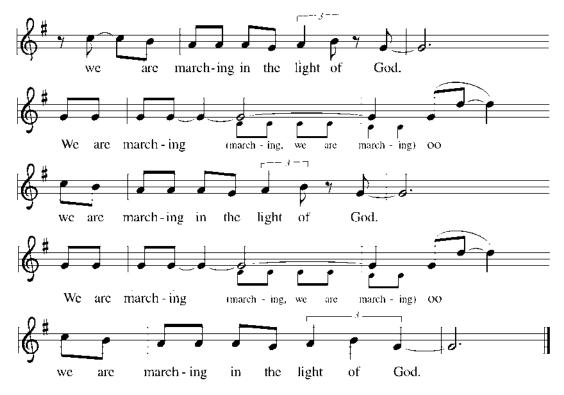
The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.





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#### **Table Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.** 

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.)

Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.



#### + SENDING +

#### **Announcements**

#### **Benediction**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

H bless you and remain with you always. Amen.



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## **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## On the Mountain Top

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. Mark 9:2

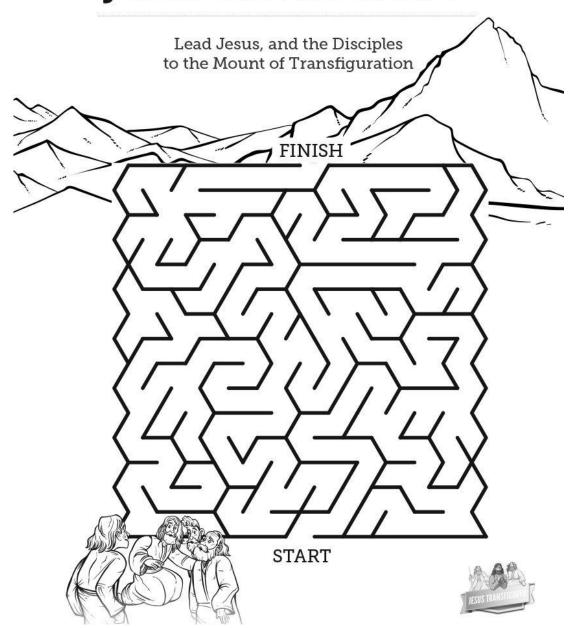
Based on Mark 9:2-9



Ι	Р	Е	Т	E	R	Z	Z	K	Ε	М	Т	F	F	K
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DAYS	JOHN	APPEARED	CLOTHES	BLEACH	
HIGH	RABBI	MOSES	GOOD	VOICE	
PETER	WHITE	LOVE	SIX	ALONE	
ELIJAH	WORLD	DAZZLING	MOUNTAIN	JAMES	

## **JESUS TRANSFIGURED**



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