



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org + 402-395-2043

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

March 2, 2025 ✝ THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

✝ GATHERING ✝

Prelude

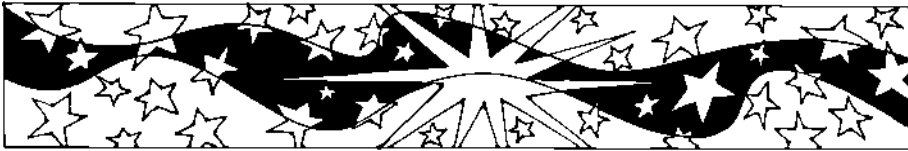
(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

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; in him there is no darkness at all.

**If we say that we have fellowship with him
while we are walking in darkness,
we lie and do not do what is true.**

But if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

**Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.**

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

Most merciful God,

troubled and penitent we confess our sins to you.

Our deeds are evil; we have loved darkness rather than the light.

We languish in the shadow of death.

Let your mercy dawn upon us

**for the sake of Jesus Christ your ever-glorious Son,
with whom you are well pleased.**

Within our hearts, and in our lives, let there be light!

God, who once commanded light to shine out of the darkness,
has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ,
who was handed over to death for our trespasses
and was raised for our justification.

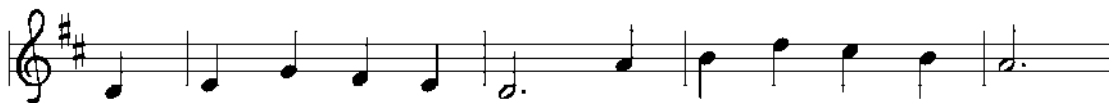
For his sake your sins are forgiven.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, walk as children of light. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

#315



- 1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

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

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

Opening Litany

Come to the mountain and see the light of the glory of God!

Bless us and keep us, O Lord.

Gaze upon the brightness and radiance of our God.

Make your face shine on us, and be gracious to us, O God.

With unveiled faces, reflect the shining of the Father
and be transformed by the power of his glory.

Lift up your countenance upon us, and give us peace, O Lord.

Hear God call to us from a cloud to make his Son known.

Keep our ears attentive to the words of your Chosen One, O God.

Listen to Jesus speak the words of salvation,
“I am the one and only Way to everlasting life.”

**No one can come to your high mountain
except through you, O Lord.**

Look out at the perfect promised land within our reach.
**With faith and hope, we wait for the day
when we will live in this place as your children
forever and ever, O God.**

Then, embraced by the dazzling white light
of the One who will bring us to this highest and most holy place,
we will declare our joy.

**We will sing and shout and say,
“It is good for us to be here, O Lord.”**

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.

Hymn of Praise *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!* #308 (v. 1&5)

1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich



- 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way — Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

Text & Music: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin, Augsburg Fortress
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Prayer of the Day

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

Holy God, mighty and immortal,

you are beyond our knowing,

yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

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.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

A reading from Exodus.

²⁹Moses 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. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called

to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴but 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, ³⁵the 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 99

Let us read Psalm 99 responsively.

¹The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

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

²The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

³Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;
God is the Holy One.

**⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD
and fall down before God's footstool;
God is the Holy One.

**⁶Moses and Aaron among your priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD,
they called upon you, and you answered them,**

⁷you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

**⁸O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

⁹Proclaim 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

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

A reading from Second Corinthians.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not 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. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.

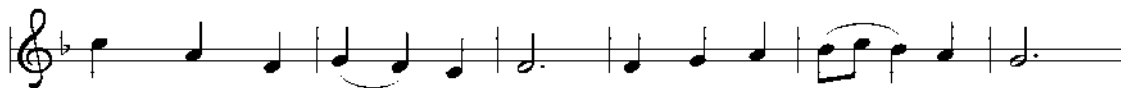
¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; 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.

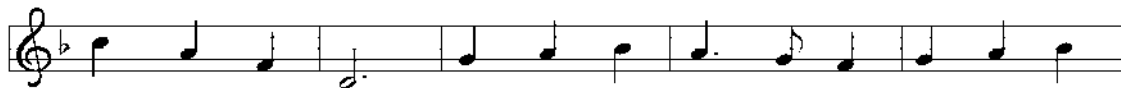
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

(Tune: #408)



Ban - ished be dark - est night; Christ glows with sav - ing light!



Al - le - lu - ia! For this e - piph - a - ny to God all



glor - y be now and e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia!

Tune: Public Domain

Holy Gospel

Luke 9:28-43a

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

The Holy Gospel according St. Luke, the 9th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

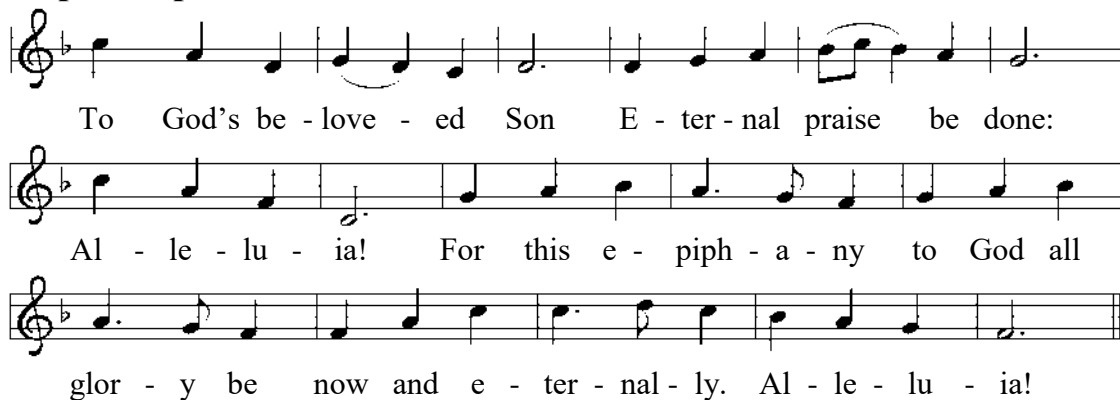
²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" — not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When 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.

³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a}And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Response

(Tune: #408)



To God's be - love - ed Son E - ter - nal praise be done:
Al - le - lu - ia! For this e - piph - a - ny to God all
glor - y be now and e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia!

Tune: Public Domain

Children's Time Sermon

Hymn of the Day

A Transfiguration Hymn

(Tune: #890)



Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord,
He was born of old in Beth - le - hem to set his peo - ple free;
For the sick and for the sin - ner he a serv - ant came to be,
For the creat - ures he cre - at - ed on an ug - ly cross he died,



His the hon - or, his the good - ness, his the name to be a - dored.
As a ser - vant he did heal the sick and walk u - pon the sea,
Taught and touched the hur - ting per - son, came to set the pris' - ner free,
Rose a - gain on Eas - ter morn and, by his Fa - ther glor - i - fied,



He is right - eous, he is might - ty with all peo - ple in ac - cord.
And he preached the Word of God to peo - ple just like you and me.
Was trans - fig - ured on a moun - tain in the land of Gal - i - lee.
Went to hea - ven with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it at his side.



His love keeps go - ing on.
His love kept com - ing on.
His love al - ways a - bounds.
His love is o - ver all.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah to Je - sus Christ our Lord!

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Music: North America, 19th cent. Public Domain

Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us profess our faith...

**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.**

Prayers of the People

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us,
let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A Transfiguring God,
through the glory of your presence, you transform us.
Move the church from complacency to boldness
in sharing the good news with others.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for your creation. As seasons change,
give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth.
Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A We pray for all in leadership,
especially for those who lead states, counties, and town councils.
Give them wisdom to protect local resources
so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you.
Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy.
We pray for those close to our communities and in our hearts,
especially...
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings,
trusting in the promise of new life in Christ.
Accompany congregations needing to close,
and give courage to congregations starting new ministries.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us
witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people.
We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope
that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

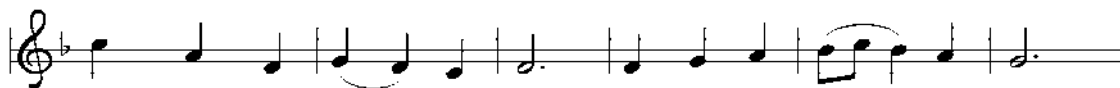
Peace

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

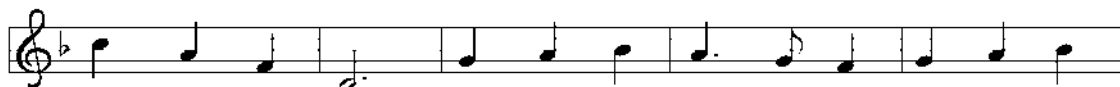
✠ OFFERING ✠

Offering Response

(Tune: #408)



Un - chang - ing Fa - ther of Lights in whom the world de - lights,
There - fore your prais - es we sing, and in our hands we bring



by whom we live: help us to un - der - stand your ev - er -
gifts in re - turn. Use them, we hum - bly pray, to spread the



op - en hand brings bless - ings to the land; great gifts you give!
light of day that all, by its glad ray, your love may learn.

Tune: Public Domain

✠ 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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Christ is the Lamb of God

(Tune: #408)



Christ is the Lamb of God. For our sakes, to the cross he trod.

O Lamb of God, for our sal - va - tion we give thanks and

praise to Thee now and e - ter - nal - ly, O Lamb of God.

Tune: Public Domain

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.

You sent a star to guide the Magi to where the Christ was born;
and your signs and witnesses in every age and through all the world
have led your people from far places to his light.

In his baptism and in his table fellowship
he took his place with sinners.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who were oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

On 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 in remembrance of me.

Again after supper, Jesus 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 in remembrance of me.

And so, in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice as we proclaim the mystery of faith...
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.
Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, Almighty God,
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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.**

Agnus Dei

(Tune: #742)



Lamb of God, our might-y Sav - ior all our sins you take a - way.



Lamb of God, by your great fa - vor, Lord, have mer-cy now, we pray.



Lamb of God, our pray'rs a - ttend - ing, nev - er let your mer-cies cease,



But, your Ho - ly Spir - it send - ing, grant us all your gift of peace.

Tune: Public Domain

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.

Distribution Hymn

Shine, Jesus, Shine

#671



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Hymn continues on the next page.

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;
 send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -
 dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free by the truth you now bring us.
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain
 Shine on me, shine on me:
 Shine on me, shine on me:

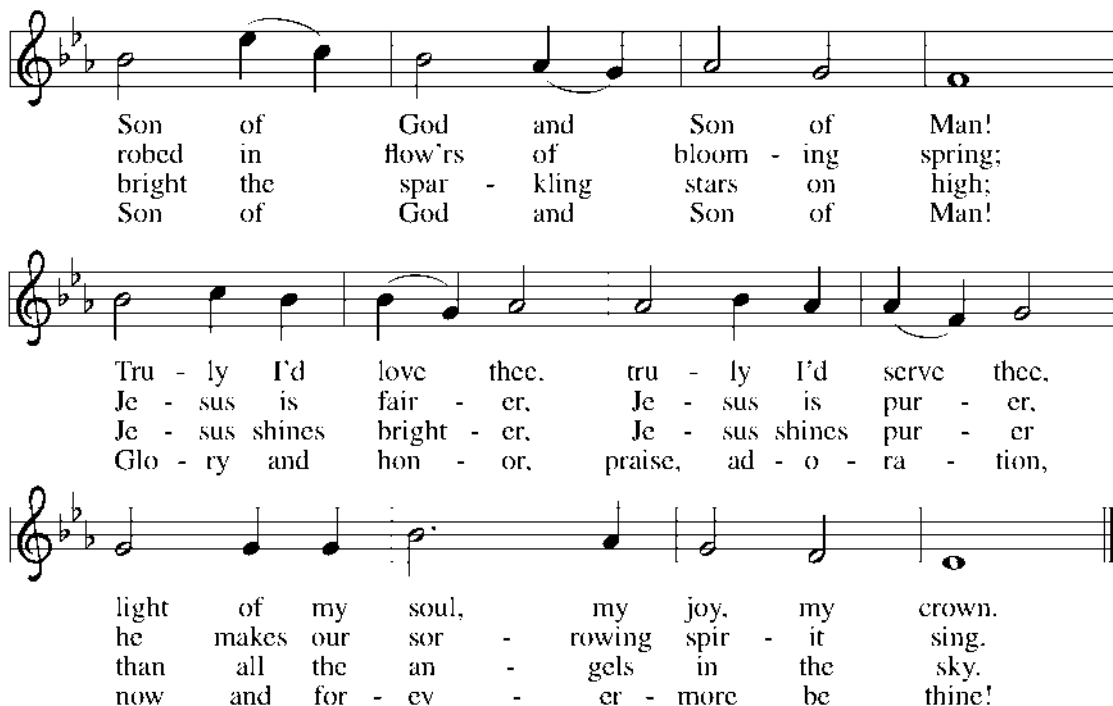
Text & Music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950
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Distribution Hymn

Beautiful Savior

#838

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 the spar-kling stars on high;
bright the God and Son of Man!
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 - owing spir - it sing.
than all the an - gels in the sky.
now and for - ev - er more be thine!

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

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.*)

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service, and send us out

to embody your good news of liberation and healing

for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Announcements

Benediction

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name,

✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Farewell to Alleluia

(Tune: #654)



Fare - well to A - le lu - ia! Ex - alt - ed word of praise,
Lord, sanc - ti - fy the si - lence with which we con - tem - plate
When an - gels join the chor - us, and white-robed saints a - bove



which now in faith we for - feit through-out these for - ty days
your bound-less love for sin - ners, your sac - ri - fice so great,
as pa - tri-archs, be - fore us, pro - claim their praise and love.



while ash - es of con - tri - tion our true re-pent-ance prove,
and grant us hope and pat - ience that, when the fast is gone,
For God, the Fa-ther, Spir - it, and Christ, the One in Three,



till East-er's Al - le - lu - ias the veil once more re - move.
new songs of Al - le - lu - ia may greet your East - er dawn!
Our shouts of "Al - le - lu - ia!" shall ring e - ter - nal - ly!

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Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876 Public Domain

Dismissal

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



"FIRST COMES FAT TUESDAY, THEN ASH WEDNESDAY, FOLLOWED BY TEMPTATION THURSDAY."



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JESUS TRANSFIGURED

Lead Jesus, and the Disciples
to the Mount of Transfiguration

