

Divine Service

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD



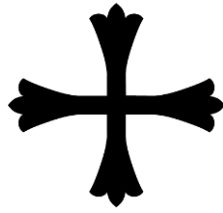
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

JANUARY 24, 2021 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME – THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Jesus Is Transfigured and Manifests His Glory

The Lord appeared to Moses in the light of the burning bush (Ex. 3:1–14). Later Moses' face would shine with the light of God's glory when he came down from Mount Sinai (Ex. 34:29–35). At the Transfiguration, Moses and Elijah appeared with the One who is the Light of Light Himself (Matt. 17:1–9). Jesus' glory as God shines with brilliant splendor in and through His human nature. By this epiphany, our Lord confirmed the prophetic word (2 Pet. 1:16–21), revealing that He is the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. He manifested His majesty as the eternal Son of the Father, and He wonderfully foreshowed our adoption as sons (Collect). We who have been baptized into Christ's body are given a glimpse of the glory that we will share with Him in the resurrection on the Last Day.



PRELUDE

Allein Gott in der Höh (All Glory Be to God on High)

Johann Pachelbel

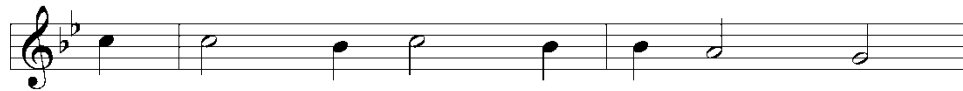
WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 413

"O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"



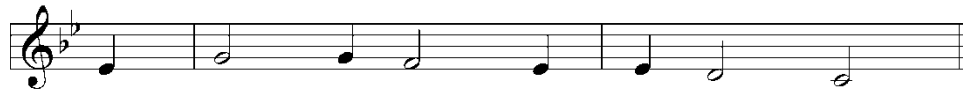
1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high
5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son



Of glo - ry that the Church may share,
The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high;
Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,
And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,



Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
And from the cloud the Ho - ly One
What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
For which in joy - ful strains we raise
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace



Where bright - er than the sun He glows!
Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.
Who joy in God with per - fect love.
The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Third Commandment:

- *Do I despise the Word by neglect or by paying little or no attention when it is read or preached?*
- *Am I faithful in the Divine Service, or do I attend sporadically, preferring to be elsewhere when the Church is at worship?*
- *Do I pray for my pastor and support his efforts to guard Christ's flock from error?*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

[John 20:19-23]

Standing

"Sin for man is a disorder and perversion: that is, a turning away from the most worthy Creator and a turning toward the inferior things that He has created."

St. Augustine (354 – 430 A.D.)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

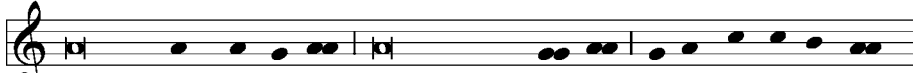
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



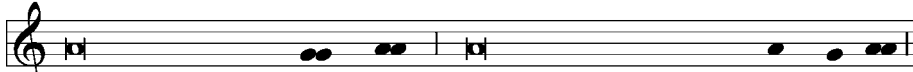
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



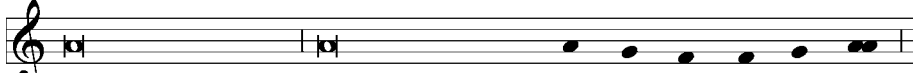
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



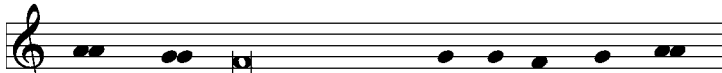
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



C A - men.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

C 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.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshadowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sitting

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 34:29-35

A The Old Testament Reading for The Transfiguration of Our Lord is from Exodus, chapter 34.

A ²⁹ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, 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 talked with them. ³² Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that

the LORD had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. ³³ And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

³⁴ Whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, ³⁵ the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Antiphon

Composer: Jonathan Mueller

Cantor introduces first time, then congregation sings second time:

Praise the Lord, all
na - tions! Ex - tol him, all peo - ples! For
great is his stead - fast love toward us, and the faith - ful - ness of the
Lord en - dures for - ev - er. As - cribe to the Lord the
glory due his name; bring an of fer - ing, and come in - to his courts!

- L** Why do the | nations rage*
and the peoples | plot in vain?
- C** The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel to- | gether,*
against the LORD and against his anointed, | saying,
- L** "Let us burst their | bonds apart*
and cast away their | cords from us."
- C** He who sits in the | heavens laughs;*
the Lord holds them in de- | rision.



- L** Then he will speak to them | in his wrath,*
and terrify them in his fury, | saying,
- C** “As for me, I have | set my King*
on Zion, my | holy hill.”
- L** I will tell of | the decree:*
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten you.
- C** Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,*
and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.
- L** You shall break them with a | rod of iron*
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s | vessel.”
- C** Now therefore, O | kings, be wise;*
be warned, O rulers | of the earth.
- L** Serve the | LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with | trembling.
- C** Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is
quickly | kindled.*
Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- C** *Antiphon*

- A** The Epistle is from 2 Peter, chapter one.
- A** ¹⁶ 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 were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

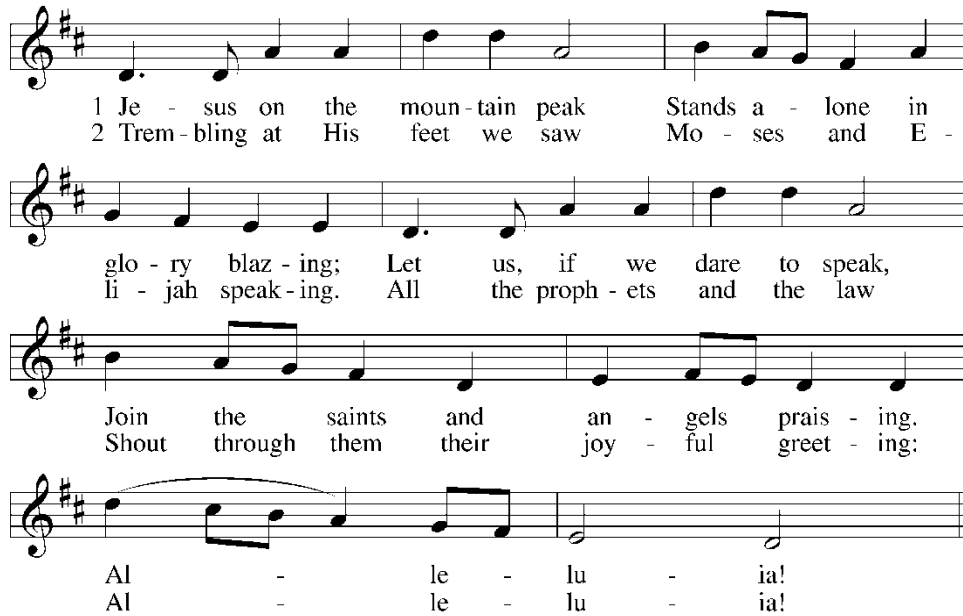
¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 415 (stanzas 1-2)

"Jesus on the Mountain Peak"



1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak Stands a - lone in
2 Trem - bling at His feet we saw Mo - ses and E -

glo - ry blaz - ing; Let us, if we dare to speak,
li - jah speak - ing. All the proph - ets and the law

Join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.
Shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:

Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

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P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

P ¹ And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵ He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud

overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.



GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

Lutheran Service Book 415 (stanzas 3-4)

“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”



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



in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!
sing be - fore Him, First and Last and on - ly One.



Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der,
All cre - a - tion shall a - dore Him!



Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

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“Several students of the Gospel of Matthew have pointed to the contrasting parallels between Matthew’s description of the transfiguration and the account of the crucifixion. In the transfiguration, Jesus’ clothes shine with the glory of God; at the crucifixion, the soldiers gamble over his garments. In the transfiguration, Jesus is surrounded by Moses and Elijah, at the cross by two criminals. In the transfiguration, Jesus is declared to be “God’s Son” by the voice of God from the cloud; at the crucifixion, the words “he said, ‘I am God’s Son’” become a taunt of mockery on the lips of the religious authorities. At the end of the transfiguration, Moses and Elijah have departed, leaving Jesus to stand in singular glory; at the end of the crucifixion, Jesus dies in humiliation while the crowd stands around waiting to see “whether Elijah will come to save him.” In both events, three of Jesus’ followers are specified as witnesses—the transfiguration by Peter, James, and John, and the crucifixion by Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, and Salome, the mother of Zebedee’s sons. The parallels suggest that we are to read one story in the light of the other, anticipating in the shining splendor of the transfiguration the suffering by which this glory would be won and discerning in the shame of the cross the very glory of God (Garland, *Reading Matthew*, 183-84).”

Tom Long
Matthew

NICENE CREED

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C **I believe in one God**, *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4*
the Father Almighty, *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *Romans 10:9*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 3:16; Matthew 16:16*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:2*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1*
very God of very God, *Colossians 2:9*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30*
by Whom all things were made; *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3*
Who for us men and for our salvation *1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23*
came down from heaven *John 6:41; Luke 15:20*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18*
He suffered and was buried. *John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*
and ascended into heaven *Acts 1:9*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Acts 7:55*
And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *2 Peter 1:11*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 15:26*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Ezekiel 11:5*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
and the life ✠ of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*
Amen. *Psalms 106:48*

CATECHETICAL RECITATION

The First Commandment

P What is the First Commandment?

C You shall have no other gods.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 411

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"



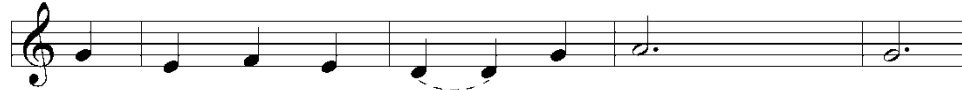
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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SERMON

"Christ's Transfiguration Is a Sneak Preview of Our Future"

Michael Kibbe

Christianity Today, June 21, 2017

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P Heavenly Father, You revealed Your glory in the transfiguration of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who tabernacled among us in the flesh. Open our eyes of faith, that we would see Him continuing to tabernacle among us here in the Divine Service, and that we would heed Your admonition to “listen to Him” as He forgives and preserves us at the font, pulpit and altar. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy Father, with the appearance of Moses and Elijah at our Lord’s glorious transfiguration, You reveal to us that all the Law and the prophets are fulfilled in Him. Send Your blessing upon all pastors and servants of Your Church, that all their preaching and teaching would flow from the right understanding that all Holy Scripture testifies of Christ and all that He has done, and continues to do, for our eternal salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Father, from whom every fatherhood under heaven is named, support and bless every Christian home, that husbands and wives would be devoted to one another and that parents would pass on the faith to their children by word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty Father, You alone establish all authority on earth. Bless those entrusted with this responsibility both here and abroad, that they would serve with integrity and honor and for the well-being of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Father, graciously comfort and strengthen those who are sick, hospitalized or enduring ongoing treatment, [*especially _____,*] that they would know Your peace and receive healing and relief according to Your gracious will. Be with those who are lonely, depressed or mentally ill. Surround them with those who know Your redeeming love and will mercifully care for them. Grant steadfastness to those near death, comfort to those who grieve, and the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to all Your children. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, how lovely is the dwelling place of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who gives us sinners to eat and to drink of His flesh and blood here at the holy altar. Grant to all who come to this feast today repentant and believing hearts, that in the Holy Eucharist they would receive forgiveness, life and salvation, and be strengthened in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember on this day the glorious manifestation of Your Son's divinity on the Mount of Transfiguration. Teach us to listen to Jesus and ever fix our eyes on Him and His innocent suffering and death for our forgiveness. By Your grace and mercy, strengthen us to remain faithful in all circumstances of trial, temptation and persecution. Preserve us to the end, that we may die a blessed death believing in Your beloved Son with whom You are well pleased; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Allein Gott in der Höh

Georg Telemann

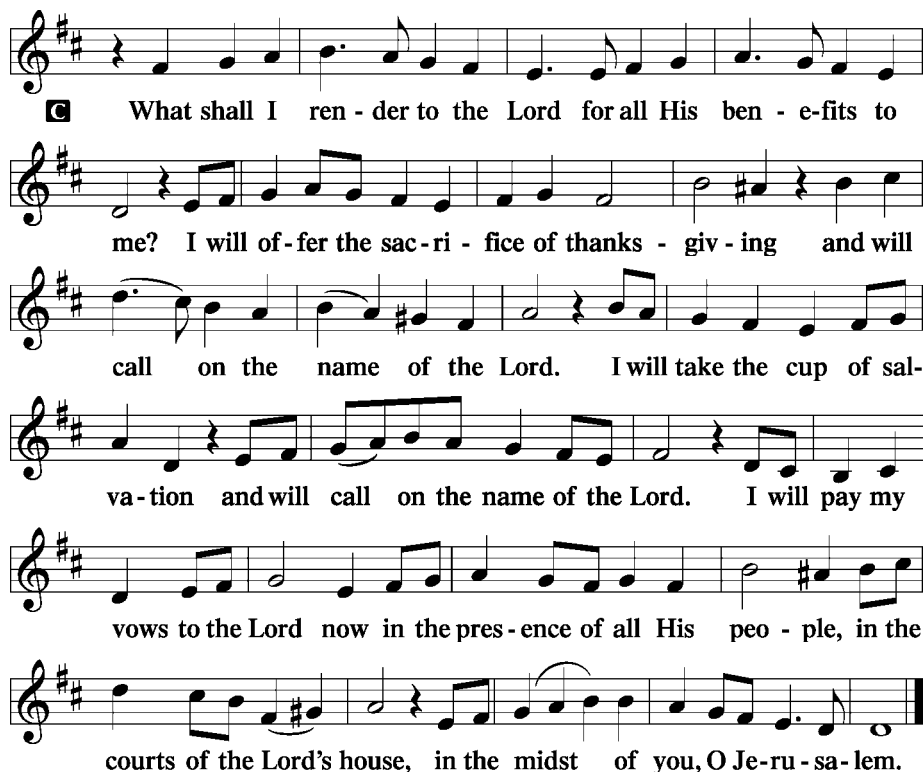
MEDITATION

Matthew 17:7 – "But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.'" When Jesus is with us, there is no need to fear. He loves us, cares for us, and will never abandon us. That assurance is the basis of all generosity for only those who are set free from worry can learn the joy of giving.

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalms 116:12-13, 17-19



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

C And al-so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of

pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

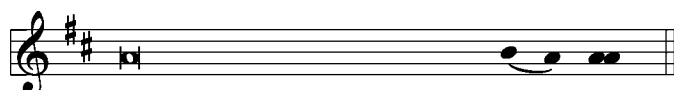
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

"It is, therefore, not only Christ who becomes transfigured; He allows us to share His glory. The Holy Eucharist is the sacrament of transfiguration, for it is "the seed of glory. One of the purposes of the liturgy is the divine transfiguration of the faithful."

Dr. Pius Parsch
The Church's Year of Grace

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sitting

About participation in the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

*(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from *Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper*, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)*

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Sun of My Soul

Vienna

Lucie Woolery, handbells

Lutheran Service Book 631

"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face"



1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God,
3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;
Here drink with Thee the roy - al wine of heav'n;
This is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me;
An - oth - er arm but Thine to lean up - on.



Here grasp with firm - er hand the e - ter - nal grace,
Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on Thee lean.
Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - giv'n.
The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with Thee.
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might a - lone.

**5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.**

**6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.**

**7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.**

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NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32



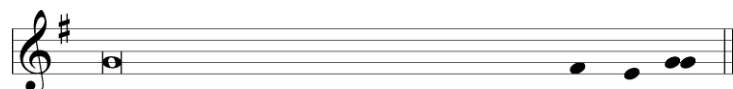
C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
 veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;
 as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev - er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
 O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26



- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you
 and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 537

“Beautiful Savior”



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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Sitting

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

DISMISSAL

After the meeting is adjourned, you may exit the sanctuary at your leisure.

POSTLUDE

Agincourt Hymn

John Dunstable

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*
Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Musician(s)

Lucie Woolery, *hand bells*

Altar Guild

Jill Drachenberg/Linda Rathje

Usher(s)

Richard Drachenberg/Isaac Beckman

Fellowship Host(s)

Greg & Judy Ison

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. Jacob Berlinski, *Guest Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*
Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Altar Guild

Anne Bigelow

Usher(s)

Brian Beckman/Grayson Beckman

Fellowship Host(s)

Anne Bigelow

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
Sunday 1/24	The Transfiguration of Our Lord Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Paul's Epistle to the Romans</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Annual Congregational Meeting Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following meeting
Monday 1/25	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Tuesday 1/26	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 1/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Thursday 1/28	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 1/29	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 1/30	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Women's Group Book Study	Closed Closed 10:00 AM
Sunday 1/31	Septuagesima Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Paul's Epistle to the Romans</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship

Truth ~ GROWING IN HIS WORD

✦ **Adult Bible Study: *Paul's Epistle to the Romans***

Theme: Law and Gospel. Judgment and grace. Freedom and bondage. These are just a few of the powerful themes St. Paul mentions in his letter to the Christians at Rome. Masterfully, he uses such images to paint a vivid portrait of salvation in Christ Jesus. Come, uncover the beautiful picture of what life now looks like on account of your Savior.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., beginning January 10

Location: Church fellowship hall

✦ **Women's Group Bible Study: *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions***

Theme: Come, delve into the great hymns of our church as they're informed by God's Word! The Ascension Women's Group is taking on a new hymn each month using the book *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions* by Timothy Shoup. It's available for purchase on Amazon for \$13 or through Concordia Publishing House for \$18, and the book "features introductions to 14 hymns with devotions based on each stanza, helping readers learn the biblical basis of the words the authors chose."

If you've never joined this group for a book study before, now is a great time – since the ladies will be studying a different hymn each month, you're free to come when you can and not stress if you can't commit to every meeting. Childcare is provided!

Day & Time: Saturday, January 30 at 10:00 A.M.

Location: The Millers
35 Coopers Glen Drive SW
Mableton, GA 30126

✝ **Subscribe to *The Lutheran Witness***

Theme: *The Lutheran Witness* is the official monthly magazine of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. It contains stories about the work of the LCMS, church teachings and customs, current events, and a letter from the LCMS president. If you are interested in purchasing a subscription to *The Lutheran Witness* for 2021, please:

- Make your check payable to Lutheran Church of the Ascension in the amount of \$10.80.
- Mark your check “LW Subscription.”
- Include your mailing address (if not already on your check).
- Leave your check in the offering plate (or mail it to LCA).

Checks must be submitted no later than Sunday, January 17. Contact Pastor Miller if you have any questions.

Goodness ~ SERVING IN HIS NAME

✝ **A BIG thank you!**

Dear friend and family of Ascension,

A big thank you for all the gracious contributions you made to the staff Christmas bonuses this year. Because of your deep generosity, we feel both honored and encouraged. What you have done for us is much appreciated and will never be forgotten. You are a living reminder of our giving-God, who gave His only Son, and whose Son gave His life, to give us eternal salvation. It is our prayer that we may give of ourselves to you as you have given to us.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Gratefully,
The LCA Staff

✝ **1-1-1 Mission Campaign**

Theme: 1-1-1 is a campaign of the English District to raise \$1/per person/per week. That means that by giving \$4 each month, just \$52 a year, everyone can give toward the district’s mission efforts. Just think what could happen if every person in the English District did this! Right now, those missions are focusing on district ministries on college campuses. Please consider playing a part in this special mission! Dollars may be contributed in the designated 1-1-1 Mission box located in the narthex.

✦ Annual Congregational Meeting

Theme: Our congregation's annual meeting is coming up! Please attend, and take part in the important business of the church. We need your input as we go over the 2021 budget. Also, stay up to date by hearing from each of our Church Board members. Since this meeting comes only once every year, you won't want to miss it. In the narthex, you may pick up an agenda of the meeting, as well as an appeal for the restoration of windows.

Day & Time: Sunday, January 24 immediately following Divine Service

Location: Church sanctuary

✦ Super Bowl Party

Theme: This year's Super Bowl Party will be graciously hosted by the Schoellen family. Not only do they have a sweet setup for viewing the game, but they always know how to throw a killer shindig. While plenty will be provided, you're still welcome to bring drinks and snacks to share. Everyone loves this event!

Day & Time: Sunday, February 7 at 5:00 P.M.

Location: The Schoellens
327 Vinings Vintage Circle
Mableton, GA 30126

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

Birthdays

✝ Ruth Henry, 1/25

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

✝ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries

✝ Justin & Julie Ledford, 1/24

Membership Anniversaries

✝ Linda Rathje, 1/26

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

✝ Sudan

For comfort, health, and healing:

- ✝ Edith Bohannon (mother of Caitlin East's friend)
- ✝ Mary Greene (neighbor of Ruth Henry)
- ✝ Brandon Irwin (friend of Lauren Morr)
- ✝ The unborn child of Lauren and J.P. Morr
- ✝ Lauren Pasco (friend of Greg Ison)
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- ✝ The unborn child of Luke Voss (former neighbor of the Schoellens)
- ✝ All impacted by COVID-19

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- ✝ Terrie Dowling (aunt of Caitlin East)
- ✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden
- ✝ Rev. David Heller (Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Athens, GA)
- ✝ Adi Murphy (former neighbor of the Beckmans)
- ✝ Jimmy Murray (friend of Adrian Popescu)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- ✝ Director Barbara Collins & Open Arms Board
- ✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & all district officials
- ✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- ✝ Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- ✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic
- ✝ President Joseph Biden & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION

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