

Last Sunday after Epiphany Feb. 27 & March 2, 2014

The Transfiguration of our Lord

Transfiguration is a distinctly Lutheran addition to the Christian calendar. In the 16th century, Johannes Bugenhagen and Veit Dietrich placed the celebration at the end of Epiphany before Lent, remembering that Jesus descended the Mount of Glory and set his face toward Jerusalem (Luke 9:51).

Jesus appears in glory as the Son of God. The Epiphany season is bookended by the voice of God the Father proclaiming Jesus his Son. Before he suffered as man's substitute, Jesus gave his Church a glimpse of the glory that he set aside to be our Savior. See how much he loves us! The God of Mt. Sinai, the Majestic Glory, became a man to suffer and die for us, just as Moses and the Prophets had foretold. It's good that we are here.

The Common Service (without Holy Communion)
(page 15 and following in CW)

Opening Hymn:

Hymn 95

STAND

The Trinitarian invocation expressly reminds the worshippers that the God they will meet here is the true God: Father, Son, and holy Spirit, who is to be worshipped here and now. The invocation also warmly calls to mind the words through which believers have been baptized into Christ and made members of his Church. The faithful respond, "Amen!" "Yes, God is here to bless. Yes, we have arrived to worship him. Yes, it is good to be here."

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (sung) **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Morrison Zion Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

*Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we help people*

Grow
in the
Gospel
and
Go
with the
Gospel



Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

C: (sung) Lord have mercy on us. Christ have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (sung) Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory Be To God (sung)

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heavn'ly King, God the Father almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you only are holy; you only are the Lord.

You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you

C: (sung) And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson:

Exodus 24:12,15-18

How different Mt. Sinai was from the Mount of Glory! Moses entered into thick darkness (Exodus 20:21) to receive the Law of God and the two-sided covenant for Israel. When he came down from the mountain and found Israel dancing before a golden calf, he could see how man would never be able to keep this Law. Yet on the Mount of Glory in the midst of a bright cloud, Moses saw God's new covenant in the person of Jesus Christ. Here was the Man who would not just keep the covenant, but who would be the covenant for all mankind. On Mt. Sinai, the people cowered in fear at the glory of God which looked like a consuming fire. But on the Mount of Glory, that same glory looked like a man—a man who touched his disciples and gave them the message of the covenant fulfilled, "Don't be afraid!"

¹² The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction."

¹³ Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God.

¹⁴ He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them."

¹⁵ When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, ¹⁶ and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. ¹⁷ To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. ¹⁸ Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights. (New International Version)

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 110 (p. 54 of CWS)

Second Lesson

2 Peter 1:16-21

"We were eyewitnesses of his majesty." Only two remained, since Herod had killed James years earlier. But for Peter and John, that day on the sacred mountain continued to shape their lives. From John 1 to 2 Peter, these men who had seen Christ's glory testified that the man Jesus of Nazareth was the Son of God. Peter promised that the Lord Jesus Christ would come again in power, and he offers us a three-fold assurance of his reliability: Peter was an eyewitness of the glory of Christ; Peter heard the Majestic Glory call Jesus the Son of God; Peter had the word of the prophets which were inspired by the Spirit and fulfilled in Christ.

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This

is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”^[a] ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

¹⁹ We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.
Alleluia. (Matthew 11:10 cf. NIV)

C: (sung) **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

STAND

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

Gospel:

Matthew 17:1-9

Six days earlier, Peter had his moment of great triumph and great failure. After witnessing the ministry and miracles of Jesus, his mouth confessed what his heart believed: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. But his great failure of faith came immediately thereafter when he wanted no part with a crucified Christ. Six days later, God gave him proof for what his faith confessed, and hope in the face of what his heart feared. God showed Peter, James, and John all the glory that belonged to the Son of God shining out in the person of Jesus. They heard God the Father testify that this was his own Son. They understood that Jesus’ death and departure were a fulfillment of the Old Testament promises of God. As Peter said, it is good for us to be on this mountain and see this Jesus, because it prepares us for Lent, and it prepares us for life. We have seen his glory, so we know he goes to his suffering and death willingly, lovingly, to be our Savior. We have seen his glory, so we know that no matter the sorrow or darkness we face in this life, we have been bought for another life in the kingdom of glory with our Lord.

¹⁷ After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.” (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (sung) **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

BE SEATED

Hymn of the Day:

Hymn 97

Sermon

Exodus 24:12,15-18

Paranormal Activity: Jesus Appears In His Full Glory

STAND

Create in Me (sung)

Following the sermon, the congregation stands to sing this short canticle, which, in the words of the Psalmist (Psalm 51:10-12), prays for a clean heart and a renewed spirit in response to God's gift of grace.

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.**

BE SEATED

Offering *During the offering, please sign the friendship register in your pew. Thank you!*

STAND

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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:

Hymn 369

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) Amen.

BE SEATED

Benediction

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: (sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.

Closing Rite:

Farewell to Alleluia

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we gather for worship again the day will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn Lenten journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, the Christian Church has omitted its most jubilant songs during the season, including the song Alleluia, which means, "Praise the Lord."

Now for a time we shall say farewell to Alleluia. With this we prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. But the Alleluias will return on Easter dawn, as we gather to shout our songs of praise to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, Song of Triumph

**C: Alleluia, song of triumph, sound of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;
Saints adorned in robes of glory join the great angelic cry.**

**Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord,
With Christ's holy Church united, justified, redeemed, restored,
And with all his faithful people raise our songs to praise the Lord.**

**Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego.
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.**

**May our hymns be filled with longing – hear us, Holy Trinity,
As we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally,
When we shall once more be singing Alleluia joyfully!**

*Text by Jason Mason Neale (11th Century)
Adopted by James Tiefel – 1998*

Today' Light Bible Readings

Week 27, March 3—8

Monday	2 Samuel 1-2
Tuesday	2 Samuel 3-4
Wednesday	2 Samuel 5
Thursday	2 Samuel 6
Friday	2 Samuel 7
Saturday	2 Samuel 8-10

Questions/Comments about Zion? Contact:

Pastor Randy Ott home: 864-2348; mobile: 362-7118; ottr@mzluth.org
Principal Brian Humann 864-2349, school@mzluth.org
President Charles Edinger 606-2119, candmedinger@icloud.com
Elders: Howard Schultz 864-2789
School Board: Jeff Krueger 336-7282

School Faculty: Joan Wegner, Brenda Kuchenbecker, Brian Humann, Tim Pingel,
Rick Muchka

Website: www.mzluth.org

Synod : www.wels.net

Custodian: Beverly Leiterman 864-2355

Church/School Secretary: Nancy Pantzlaff 864-7334

Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service Appleton (WELS counseling)
Kathleen Jasman 731-9798

Living Hope Counseling Ministries De Pere (WELS counseling)
Dr. John Johnson, Director, 338-8699