

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

January 25th, 2026



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
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SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Hymn ----- Jesus Take Us to the Mountain
CWS 712

1. Jesus, take us to the mountain
Where, with Peter, James, and John,
We are dazzled by your glory,
Light as blinding as the sun.
There prepare us for the night
By the vision of that sight.
2. What do you want us to see there
That your close companions saw?
Your divinity revealed there
Fills us with the selfsame awe.
Clothed in flesh like ours you go,
Matched to meet our deadliest foe.
3. What do you want us to hear there
That your dear disciples heard?
Once again the voice from heaven
Says of the incarnate Word:
“Listen, listen, ev’ryone;
This is my beloved Son!”
4. Take us to that other mountain
Where we see you glorified,
Where you shouted, “It is finished!”
Where for all the world you died.
Hear the stunned centurion:
“Truly this was God’s own Son!”

5. **We who have beheld your glory,
Risen and ascended Lord,
Cannot help but tell the story,
All that we have seen and heard,
Say with Peter, James, and John:
“You are God’s beloved Son!”**

Stand.

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSiON OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

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.**

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: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Lord, Have Mercy

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O Lord, Our Lord

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Exodus 34:29-35

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 realize that the skin of his face was shining because he had been speaking with the LORD. When Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, they were amazed that the skin of his face was shining, so they were afraid to come close to him. Moses called to them, so Aaron and all the rulers of the community returned to him, and Moses spoke to them. Afterward all the people of Israel came close to him, and he gave them all of the commands that

the LORD had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. When Moses was finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face. But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out again. Then he would come out and tell the people of Israel what he had been commanded. Whenever the people of Israel saw Moses' face, they would see that the skin of Moses' face was shining. Then Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with the LORD again.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 2

CW p.65

Refrain

Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Great are the works of the Lord.

Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers
gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One.

Refrain

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying*,
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:^{*}
He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.”

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son^{*}
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,^{*}
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- 2 Peter 1:16-21

To be sure, we were not following cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the powerful appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father, when the voice came to him from within the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” We heard this voice, which came out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

From the Mount of Our Lord's Glory

Tune: CW 255

1 From the mount of our Lord's glory,
Other mountaintops appear.
Peaks in concert sing this story:
Our salvation has drawn near.
Shine, O Lord, from every height
Rays of wisdom, peace, and light!

2 Moses from Mount Sinai preaches
Words in stone that shatter hearts.
Down into the depths he reaches,
Bidding us from sin depart.
Rise, repent, O Christian, see
Light and life on Calvary!

3 As Elijah battles evil, Truth and lies on Carmel fight,
Christians strive against the devil; Warfare is our daily plight.
Grant us peace midst war and loss, From the mount of our Lord's cross.

4 Jesus from Mount Calv'ry preaches
Blood-soaked words that heal our
hearts.

Warfare ends, the battle ceases,
Peace and hope our Lord imparts.
Christ, transfix'd on Calv'ry's tree,
Grant that we transfigured be!

Stand.

Gospel ----- **Matthew 17:1-9**

Six days later Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John the brother of James; and he led them up onto a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them. His face was shining like the sun. His clothing became as white as the light. Just then, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, I will make three shelters here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, suddenly a

5 Here we see salvation's story,
Here the law has been fulfilled,
Here is Christ in thorn-crowned
glory,
Here our hearts His peace has stilled.
Here, our Lord, upon that height,
Shines on us as Light of Light!

bright cloud overshadowed them. Just then, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him."

When the disciples heard this, they fell face down and were terrified. Jesus approached and as he touched them, he said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." When they opened their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Do not tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- Down from the Mount of Glory

CW 97

1. Down from the mount of glory Came Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Recall the wondrous story, Rich gem in sacred Word.
Again your faith will view him In double glory here;
The greater homage due him Will in your life appear.
2. Transfigured, Christ, the lowly, Stood radiant in the light,
Light found in Godhead solely, For human eyes too bright.
Then came a voice from heaven, Confirmed what here we see;
The words "my Son" were given To seal his deity.
3. Yet mark this glory hidden! See him the mount descend
And, by the Father bidden, His willing footsteps bend
To seek humiliation In deepest depths of woe,
To suffer degradation No mind can probe or know.
4. Strange how his journey ended! In love that is his fame
Our Lord again ascended A mount—the hill of shame.
Upon the cross he proffered Himself to agony;
His holy soul he offered To set the guilty free.
5. Then hail the double glory Of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
And let the wondrous story Full peace and joy afford!
The holy mount acclaims him The majesty divine;
Mount Calvary proclaims him Redeemer—yours and mine.

Sermon ----- Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus' Transfiguration Is Aimed at the Cross

Stand.

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum, CW p.48

C: *(Sing)* We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;

all creation worships you, Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,

cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heav'nly hosts,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,

the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free,

you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You sit at the right hand of God

in the glory of the Father.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,

bought with the price of your own blood,

and bring us with your saints

to glory everlasting.

Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation joins with “**hear our prayer.**”*

*Online giving option:
mluther.org/offerings*



*Offerings support the spread
of the Gospel here and around the world.*

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

M: Heavenly Father, in Your Son Your glory tabernacled in human flesh and blood to win for us eternal life. Open the eyes of all people to see Your glory in the face of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Gracious God, with the appearance of Moses and Elijah at our Lord’s glorious transfiguration, You reveal to us that the Law and the prophets are fulfilled in Him. Send Your blessing upon pastors and servants of Your Church, that their preaching and teaching would flow from this right understanding of Christ and His work for our eternal salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: O Lord, lead Your people in Your steadfast love, and guide them in strength to Your holy abode. Sanctify our homes. Be the companion of those who live alone. Make our households places where Your wisdom and grace are found. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: 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 for the well-being of all. Grant that all division, conflict and strife would give way to unity, peace and quietness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, remember the sick, [*especially* _____,] that they would be fully restored to health according to Your will. Yet if it not be Your will, give them grace to accept their affliction. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Merciful Lord, bless all who approach the holy altar to receive Your Son's body and blood this day, that they would come in repentance and faith and depart in the peace only Christ can give. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, we thank and praise You for Moses and Elijah; for Peter, James and John; and for all Your saints who gather around the glorified Lord Jesus. Keep us in the faith until such time as You call us to receive our portion with Your saints in light. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, Your power is beyond compare and Your glory beyond understanding. Open our hearts to know You through the glory of Your Son, whose saving will and purpose has rescued us from sin and death and made us Your own people by Baptism and faith; for to You, blessed and eternal Father, belong all honor and glory, worship and praise, with Your beloved Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymn:

Hymn ----- How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

CW 79

1. How lovely shines the Morning Star! The nations see and hail afar
The light in Judah shining.

O David's Son of Jacob's race, My Bridegroom and my King of grace,
For you my heart is pining.

Lowly, Holy, Great and glorious, O victorious Prince of graces,
Filling all the heav'nly places.

2. O highest joy by mortals won, True Son of God and Mary's Son,
The highborn King of ages!
In your blest body let me be, E'en as the branch is in the tree,
Your life my life supplying.
Sighing, Crying For the savor Of your favor
Resting never Till I rest in you forever.
3. O mighty Father, in your Son You loved me ere you had begun
This ancient world's foundation.
Your Son has made a friend of me, And when in spirit him I see,
I joy in tribulation.
What bliss Is this! He is living, To me giving
Life forever; Nothing me from him can sever.
4. Oh, joy to know that you, my Friend, Are Lord, beginning without end,
The first and last, eternal!
And you at length—O glorious grace—Will take me to that holy place,
The home of joys supernal.
Amen, Amen! Come and meet me, Quickly greet me! With deep yearning,
Lord, I look for your returning.
5. Lift up the voice and strike the string, Let all glad sounds of music ring
In God's high praises blended.
Christ will be with me all the way, Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day
Till trav'ling days are ended.
Sing out, Ring out Triumph glorious, O victorious Chosen nation;
Praise the God of your salvation.

THANKSGIVING

Stand.

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'-ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be seated.

Hymn ----- How Good, Lord, to Be Here

CW 95

1. How good, Lord, to be here!
Your glory fills the night;
Your face and garments, like the sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.
2. How good, Lord, to be here
Your beauty to behold,
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Your messengers of old.
3. Fulfiller of the past,
Promise of things to be,
We hail your body glorified
And our redemption see.

4. Before we taste of death,
We see your kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright
And make this hill our home.

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



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