



*For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has
shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

2 Corinthians 4:6

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL

The Transfiguration of Our Lord ~ February 14, 2021

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

February 14, 2021

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

(**P**) = Pastor, (**C**) = Congregation, (**A**) = Reader/Assisting)

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Theme: "The Glory of the Word"

AS WE GATHER

The Transfiguration is a strange and glorious event in the Bible. We often speak of light shining forth as God reveals Himself in the world around us. The Christ, the Anointed One who came in human form, is the true light. His glory on the Mount of Transfiguration was a glimpse into His natures as both God and man. Before His journey to the cross to rescue the lost and condemned, Jesus shows us that He is God and a sacrifice that is enough to buy us back from sin. During this final Sunday after the Epiphany, God reminds us that He has a new Word of salvation, so we must listen...and obey.

PRELUDE

"Pachelbel's Canon of Peace"

arr. Patrick M. Liebergen

Barb Greco/Carlyn Staudt, duo

Rachel Kelley, Flute

WELCOME

HYMN

“’Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”

‘Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.

‘Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified and our redemption see.

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

‘Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

INVOCATION

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

OPENING RESPONSES

Psalm 50:1-2, 6

P The Mighty One, God the LORD
C **speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

P Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.

P The heavens declare His righteousness,
C **For God himself is judge!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P O God, our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean
and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.
C **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

P We confess that we have not always brought glory to You through our words and
our deeds.
C **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

P We repent of all that is sinful in our lives, both that which we know and those things unknown to us that are against Your righteous laws.

C **Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.**

P Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

C **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 foreshowed 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.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

✠ THE WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 34:29–35 (ESV)

(Moses covers his face with a veil.)

²⁹When 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.

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1–6 (ESV)

(Paul writes of God's people being transformed.)

¹² Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³ not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

¹ Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

LAMBS' LESSON

Pr. Jim Sprengle

(Jesus is transfigured on a high mountaintop.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

² And after six days Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them, ³ and His clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵ And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for You and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶ For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is My beloved Son; listen to Him.” ⁸ And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. ⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, He charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

“Thy Strong Word”

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
 For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
 Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
 Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
 From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

CATECHISM

The First Article

P In the First Article, our confession is focused on God, our Creator, from whom our divine Savior Jesus Christ has proceeded. It is the voice of God the Father that we hear on the Mount of Transfiguration, acclaiming His Son, Jesus, and directing His disciples to listen to Him. As we declare our faith in God the Father, we affirm our trust in His plan for us as His children to grant us life and to place us into vocations through which we can serve Him and our neighbors. We speak the words of this article of the Apostles’ Creed followed by the explanation.

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P What does this mean?

C **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we pray especially for...and all who are in need. Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant us our daily bread, help us trust in You to provide for all our needs, and we give thanks for the milestones this week...Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA Ecclesiastes 3:1–4, 7

- P** This week with Ash Wednesday, we begin our observance of Lent. To highlight the penitential nature of the season, it is the Church's custom to suspend the use of the word "Alleluia," which means "Praise the Lord." A tradition has been in place since the fifth century not to use the joyful word "Alleluia" in worship from the conclusion of worship on the final Sunday before Lent, which is today, until the first service on Easter Sunday. The text of our closing hymn, "Alleluia, Song of Gladness," dates back to the eleventh century and links us to a millennium of God's people at

worship. We now repeat words from the Book of Ecclesiastes, which remind us that there are appropriate times for all things, including a time to keep silence, which we will observe regarding use of the “Alleluia” throughout Lent.

P For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;

C **a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;**

P a time to break down, and a time to build up;

C **a time to weep, and a time to laugh;**

P a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

C **a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.**

P As part of our observance of a holy Lent as it begins this week, we now say farewell to Alleluia until the time of our rejoicing anew at the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Day.

C **Alleluia! Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please read the FYI in your bulletin for additional announcements and information.)

HYMN

“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”

(Tune: Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing)

Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.

Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*®, Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Capitalization of pronouns referring to the Deity has been added and is not part of the original English Standard Version text.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 14, 2021

† ATTENDING SATURDAY SERVICE

Services will be recorded at 2:00pm. The official rule for religious services is maximum 25 people, including pastors and assistants, 6-foot distancing and masks are required. After the service is recorded, a brief communion service will be held for those in attendance.

Reservations: Contact office and speak to Michele.

Reservations for coming Saturday only (no multiple weeks)

If full that week, names go on next week's list

The procedure for coming is as follows:

1. Do not have ANY illnesses or symptoms.
2. Arrive prior to 2:00pm as the service is taped and disturbances after beginning are not good
3. Wear a mask when entering
4. Use hand sanitizer on the table and sign in on the sheet there
5. Social distance of 6 feet at all times
6. Enter the building through the Narthex Entrance
7. To enter the sanctuary, use the door at the hallway not the main sanctuary doors as they are blocked off due to filming.
8. No dwelling after church in the narthex. Please take conversations outside.

† ALTERNATIVES FOR HOMEBOUND WORSHIP

- Online Daily Devotions are on our Facebook page: Ascension Lutheran Church and School - Portland
- Radio: KPdq on 93.9FM Sunday mornings at 7:00am.
- alcpportland.org for Bible Studies and Worship Services

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Greco 2/18

BIRTHDAYS

Bob East	2/17	Alex Ritchie	2/17
Jennifer Netsch	2/18	Tracy Schaffer	2/18
Marcia Bryant	2/19		

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

John and Carolyn Haase Feb 14, 1970 Herb and Carol Reiniger Feb 17, 1990

PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests at 503-665-8821 or e-mail: office@alcportland.org

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The Family of Jack Webber, Carolyn Erdmann, Elly Brown, Mike Hatley, The family of Alejandra Gamboa, The Family of Randy Arronson, Mary Niska, Larry Hart, Bill Ritchie, Colleen Ek Yah, Esperanza Gutierrez, Brian Laxton, Virginia Hunt, John Eilers and Family, Marty Blankenburg, Richard Robertson, Lewis Eilers, The Family of Ordena Laxton, The Family of Wayne Rippon, Rich Zahursky, Audrey Bauch, Alan Bauch, Leonard Murphy, Bruce Blubaum, Judy Blubaum, Ray Brown, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Michele Sprengle

Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), Carol Santorufo (sister of Sue Wentela),

*Barbara Schrader, *Dale Porath, All those suffering or infected with Covid-19.

**Home Bound.*

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Marie Cassetty Brown, Air Force — Ramstein Air Base, Germany AFB LA (sister-in-law of Wanda Cassetty);

Jaden Keup, Army – deployed (great-nephew of Karon Keup);

Jon Porath, Air Force — Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas NV (son of Dale and Sherry Porath);

Dakota Saunders, US Navy — Based in Cecilia Italy (godson of Carrie Graham);

Alex Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Washington (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force – Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — Assigned to USS Harry S. Truman (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 503-665-8821 · Childcare Center: 503-667-6750
Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~ *Go and Share Jesus Christ* ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8) by:

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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