

# Transfiguration of Our Lord

Sunday, February 11, 2018 10:30 AM

Welcome to Gethsemane Lutheran Church. We are glad you have found your way through our big red front doors! You are invited to join us for fellowship time before or after the service in the Café area. Visitors, we invite you to take a welcome brochure found on the table outside the office. Parents, should you find the need to take your children out of the service, our nursery is available for you across the hall, and we also have rocking chairs in the narthex. Worship activity bags are available by the table just outside the sanctuary for older children to use during the service.

## INTRODUCTION

*The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's beloved son. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor. God of all time,

C: **We confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.  
In ✠ Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new.  
Rejoice in this good news!

C: **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12

*Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Eli-

sha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup>The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

<sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup>He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

## PSALM: Psalm 50:1-6



Psalm 50:2  
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## Evangelical Lutheran Worship

*Red Book Setting Four*  
pages 147-155

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* Dismissal	
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\* All who are able are asked to stand

### Serving Today:

Theo Groh	Assisting Minister
Holly Groh	Communion
Dave Reinke	Lector
Lynne Dapice	Organist

\*\*\* Please see the insert in the back of the ELCA Red Book

<sup>1</sup>The mighty one, God the | LORD, has spoken;  
calling the earth from the rising of the sun | to its setting.

<sup>2</sup>**Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,  
God shines | forth in glory. R**

<sup>3</sup>Our God will come and will | not keep silence;  
with a consuming flame before, and round about a | raging storm.

<sup>4</sup>**God calls the heavens and the earth | from above  
to witness the judgment | of the people.**

<sup>5</sup>“Gather before me my | loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice.”

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare the rightness | of God’s cause,  
for it is God | who is judge. R**

### **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine out of darkness at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.*

<sup>3</sup>Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9**

*Mark’s gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus’ followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God’s glory manifest in the beloved Son.*

<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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# Gethsemane Lutheran Church

*For everyone,  
a place in the garden*

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