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**The Transfiguration of our Lord**

“What Moses and Elijah nigh the incarnate Lord holds converse high; and from the cloud the Holy One bears record to the only Son.” *LSB* 413:2

**AS WE GATHER**

We suppose He, Jesus, didn’t have to do it—suddenly appear with His glorious divine nature shining through His human nature and clothing. No, He didn’t have to do it for Himself, but He did it for that inner circle of the disciples and through their testimony also for us. Especially as we prepare to see His human suffering, betrayal, and humiliating death, our faith needs to be made even more certain. Certain of what? Certain that while Jesus is a human being like us, He is also and continues to be of one substance with God the Father, true God in the flesh. Because of who He is, Jesus will perfectly obey the Father’s will, make full and sufficient payment to the Father for our sins by His suffering and sacrificial atonement, and provide victory over sin, death, and the devil by His resurrection from the dead. He is the content and substance of faith in each believer.

**PSALM** 2:6-12

**+ Preparation +**

**INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Praise the Lord, all nations!

**People: Extol Him, all peoples!**

Pastor: For great is His steadfast love toward us,

**People: and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.**

Pastor: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name;

**People: bring an offering, and come into His courts!**

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION** *2 Peter 1:19*

Pastor: That we may enter into the holy presence of Christ, let us confess our sins that we may be made the righteousness of God.

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

 We confess to You, Almighty God,

**People: our blindness to Your glory and our reluctance to seek Your grace. We have sinned against You and our neighbors by our own fault in both our thoughtless actions as well as the good we have failed to do. For the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, forgive us. Renew our hearts, enliven us in spirit, and let us see Your glorious mercy.**

Pastor: “We have something more sure, the prophetic word, 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.” In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”* (*LSB* 400)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Exodus 24:8-18 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below Collect of the Day)*

**EPISTLE** 2 Peter 1:16-21 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 17:1-9 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**NICENE CREED** (*back, inside cover*)

**HYMN** *“O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair”* (*LSB* 413)

**SERMON *“This Is”***

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(after each petition):* Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

 **People: hear our prayer.**

**LORD’S PRAYER, SUNG** (*LSB*,front inside cover)

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However,* ***if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing****. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION**

 *“’Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”* (*LSB* 414)

 *“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”* (*LSB* 631)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee. Our heartfelt thanks forever be, Who hast so lovingly bestowed on us Thy body and Thy blood.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN** *“Alleluia, Song of Gladness”* (*LSB* 417)

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH,**

Rev. Curt Hoover, Rev. Alebachew Teshome,

Rev. Craig Fiebiger, Rev. Doug DeWitt

2640 Buckner Road, Thompson’s Station, TN 37179, (615) 791-1880

[www.faithlutheran-tn.org](http://www.faithlutheran-tn.org)

 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**