

The Transfiguration of our Lord



Then Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Out of my sight, Satan; you are a stumbling block to me. You think as men think, not as God thinks”

(Matthew 16:23 Revised English Bible).

Holy Cross Lutheran Church – LC-MS

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Rev. Dr. Stephen H. Mentz, *Pastor* Rev. Suah Deddeh, *Assistant Minister*
Roberto Vela, Esq., *Organist*

Welcome!

We thank God for this time together! If you are worshipping with us for the first time this morning, we extend a very special welcome to Holy Cross. We are happy and grateful that you have joined us to worship God and celebrate His love. May God bless your worship with us, and please be assured that your presence among us is a blessing.

Celebration of Communion

Lutherans believe that in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ are received with the Bread and Wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. Baptized Christians who confess their sins to God, desire to live a new life in Jesus Christ, and affirm this statement of faith, are invited to celebrate this Sacrament with us. If you have any questions regarding Communion, please speak with Pastor. We also invite children to come forward to receive a blessing.

As we prepare for worship . . .

Please make certain that your cell phone is silenced. Remember to whisper. Voices travel! Use the time prior to the service for silent meditation and prayer.

+The Transfiguration of Our Lord +

March 3, 2019

9:30 a.m.

Transfiguration Sunday

This festival concludes the Christmas cycle that began in Advent. In the Gospel reading for today, we see a glimpse of Jesus in His glory and honor. No longer is He the little baby lying in a manger. Today we see Him as Lord of Lords and King of Kings. From the Festival of the Transfiguration, the Church turns this week to Ash Wednesday and its baptismal journey to Christ's death and resurrection.

Prelude

STAND

*In acknowledgement of our Lord's presence and
as a reminder of His work on our behalf,
please turn and face the Processional Cross as it is carried in.*

Gathering of God's People

P In the beginning was the Word,

C And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P In the Word was life,

C and the life was the light of all people.

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C and we have seen His glory, full of grace and truth.

Reading of the Transfiguration Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

P It is good for us to be here, to be gathered as God's people and to stand in the presence of our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

Processional Hymn

All Glory Be to God Alone

948

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

P The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; He has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

C Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals Himself in glory.

P The Lord is King; He is enthroned upon the cherubim.

C The Lord is great in Zion; He is high above all peoples.

P Let me announce the decree of the Lord: "I Myself have set My King upon My holy hill of Zion.

C "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You."

P Let them confess His Name, which is great and awesome.

C Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before His footstool.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, on the mountain You showed Your glory in the transfiguration of Your Son. Give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold the King in all His glory; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BE SEATED

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-6

Pew Bible, p. 43

After the reading:

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

2 Peter 1:16-21

Pew Bible, p. 903

After the reading:

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Holy Gospel for today is found in the 16th chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

Pew Bible, p. 822

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair

#413

Message

Affirmation of Faith

P Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.

C We believe in Jesus Christ Who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted Him and gave Him the Name that is above every name, so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. – (Philippians 2:5-11).

Offering Prayer

C Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks what You have first given us – ourselves, our time and our possessions – as signs of Your goodness and symbols of our love. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, Who offered Himself for us. Amen.

Gathering of the Offerings

Prayer of the Church

P In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father. Lord of glory, it is good that we are here. In peace we make our prayer to You. In trust we confirm our faith in You. Help us to set our faces steadfastly to where You would have us go. Lord, look with favor.

C Lord, transfigure and heal.

P Lord of glory, look with favor on Your Church, proclaiming Your beloved Son to the world and listening to the promptings of His Spirit. May Your Church be renewed in holiness that the Church may reflect Your glory and do Your will. Lord, look with favor.

C Lord, transfigure and heal.

P Lord of glory, look with favor on the nations of the world, scarred by hatred, strife and war. May nations be healed of their sins and touched by Your Spirit, may peace and harmony rule the world. Lord, look with favor.

C Lord, transfigure and heal.

P Lord of glory, look with favor on those in need and distress, suffering as Your Son suffered and offered His life for us. Give peace of body, soul and mind to all who cry to You this day. Lord, look with favor.

C Lord, transfigure and heal.

Special Prayers for:

Terri Collins (sister of Allen Clem health issues); **Hank Gramlich**, (father of Cindy Clem); **Rev. Neil Ray** (home); **Teresa Wilcox**, mother of Amy Minor; **Hank Stuvén** (home); **Robin Beam**, (sister of Susan Lucero); **Michelle Burrus** (at home);

Lucille Keys.

Birthdays: **Emily Francis** (3/3); **Peter Whittaker, Jr** (3/4); **Priscilla Krueger** (3/5); **Emil Mentz** (3/5); **Sunny Francis** (3/9).

P Lord of glory, it is good if we suffer with You in this life, so we shall shine with You in the glory to come. Preserve Your children from all harm and

danger. Keep us close to You so that we do not lose hope. To You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be praise and worship now and for evermore. .

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right to give You our thanks and praise, O God.... Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy Name and join their glorious song, saying:

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna.**

Words of Institution

Agnus Dei (spoken)

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us and grant us peace.

BE SEATED

Distribution of Holy Communion

STAND

Prayer of Simeon

P Simeon takes the Lord of glory in his arms.

C Now let Your servant go in peace, for I have seen my Savior.

P The heavenly God appears in mortal flesh.

C Now let Your servant go in peace, for I have seen my Savior.

P He who speaks through prophets offers Himself for us.

C Now let Your servant go in peace, for I have seen my Savior.

P He Who lives in heaven appears on earth in His temple.

C Now let Your servant go in peace, for I have seen my Savior.

P He is God to be feared, yet His mercy knows no limits.

C Now let Your servant go in peace, for I have seen my Savior.

P Let us pray.

C We give You all thanks and praise, O God, for Your transfiguring light has overcome us and is restoring within us the image of Your glory. Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer You thanks and praise at all times through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading (Genesis 2:7, 16,17; 3:17,19)

P The Lord God formed the man [Adam] from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being....And the Lord God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."....[After Adam and Eve sinned God said to Adam] [God] said, "By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

C God of tender mercy, You fashioned us from the dust of earth and bid us follow Your Gospel call in the company of the Church. Look on us with kindness as we prepare the ashes which will mark the beginning of our Lenten journey. Grant that we who make the desert pilgrimage might come to the font of rebirth with a renewed passion for justice. May our alms serve Your people and bring us peace, may prayer sanctify all our

deeds, and may we come at last to the table You set in the place where You reign with Christ and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

Burning of the Palms

Prayer

P Lord God, bless these ashes [+] that will be placed on our foreheads this Ash Wednesday. Let them remind us that we are dust but that we shall be raised to a new life on the Last Day. Help us to observe this Holy Lent so that we may celebrate with joy and assurance the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday which is now our resurrection. To You - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - be all praise, glory and honor, now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

417

Please turn and face the Processional Cross as it is carried out.

Benediction

P May God the Father show you the light of His glory in the face of His Son, so that you may be a light to the world. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Go in peace. You have seen the majesty of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria!

Serving in Worship

Altar Guild: April Tanter & Dianne Graves

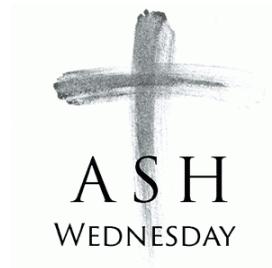
Lector: Duland Graves **Communion:** Allen Clem **Greeter:** Pat Fitzenreiter

Counters: Warren & Mary Lucy Warren

Ushers: Greg Clem & Nikki Clem

Town Hall Meeting – Today!

Please join us in the fellowship hall for a light brunch and a discussion regarding the church's property. All are invited!



Lent begins this Wednesday, March 6. We will observe this holy day with 2 services of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes.

Service times are: **11:00 a.m.** & **7:00 p.m.**

Easter Flowers & Music

The forms for ordering Easter flowers and making a special offering for Easter music is on the welcome counter. The deadline for ordering Easter flowers is April 10.

Lenten Daily Readings

Pastor Deddeh and I encourage you to spend a few minutes each day in Lent reading through the Gospels. A plan for daily readings is available from the ushers after the service.

“Stay awake, and pray that you will not be put to the test — the spirit indeed is eager, but human nature is weak”

(Matthew 26:41 – Complete Jewish Bible).

Bible Study and Lady Bug Meeting

Due to the special Town Hall this morning, the men and women Bible studies will be moved to next Sunday, March 10.

Holy Cross 75th Logo

Look on the bulletin board at the proposed new 75th Anniversary Logo!

Important Dates

Ash Wednesday - March 6

Community Outreach & Easter Egg Hunt – April 13

Faith Walk – Palm Sunday April 14

Seder Meal – April 19

Easter – April 21

75th Anniversary – August 25