

Sunday, February 14, 2021

Transfiguration of Our Lord / Last Sunday after Epiphany, Year B

Readings 2Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2Corinthians 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

Prelude *Transfiguration Hymn* words Ken Bible, music John Hughes

Announcements

After Announcements - ELW 316 *O Wondrous Type, O Vision Fair* *Instrumental

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow
your outward way of love.**

We distrust those who are not like us.

**We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone.**

**Even before the words are on our tongues,
you know them;**

receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.

How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, your sins are washed away
and you are claimed as God's own beloved.

Indeed, you are forgiven.

In the wake of God's forgiveness, you are called to be the beloved community
living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts.
Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So, they went down to Bethel. ³The 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."

⁴Elijah 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. ⁵The 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."

⁶Then 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. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then 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.

⁹When 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." ¹⁰He 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." ¹¹As 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. ¹²Elisha 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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 50:1-6 (sung responsively)

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

²**Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,
God shines | forth in glory.**

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

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

⁵"Gather before me my | loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice."

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness | of God's cause,
for it is God | who is judge.**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In 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. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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.

²Six 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, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then 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." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

⁹As 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.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you O, Christ.**

Sermon

Music - Shine Like the Sun by John Ylvisaker

The Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us profess our faith praying the words of The Nicene Creed.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

A: For the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for communities of faith far and near, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

A: For creation: sun, moon and stars; life forming in the dark earth and ocean deep; mountains, clouds and storms, and creatures seen and unseen, and for the Holy Spirit's guidance in our stewardship of God's creation, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

A: For those responsible for safety and protection: for emergency responders and security guards, attorneys and advocates, civil servants and leaders of governments, that they witness to mercy and justice throughout the world, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

A: For all who suffer this day that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

A: For companions on life's journey in this worshiping community, for loved ones who cannot be with us this day, and for guidance during struggles we face, that God's glory is revealed around and among us, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

A: In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their earthly pilgrimage that their lives of service and prayer inspire us in our living, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

P: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Music - ELW 531 *The Trumpet Sounds*

Offering Prayer

O God,
receive these gifts as you receive us:
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.
Nourish us anew in your tender care,
and empower us in faithful service
to tend to others with this same love,
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.
Come and be fed.

Music ELW 838 *Beautiful Savior*

Prayer after Communion

Christ Jesus,
at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet
nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news
and serve others in your name.

Amen.

Blessing

God the creator, strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved, fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.

Amen.

Music – ELW 631 *Love Divine, All Love Excelling*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.