

# LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

FEBRUARY 27 / MARCH 2, 2025

#### Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

6430 Hwy. D Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Steven D. Bode, pastor 6438 Hwy. D Allenton, WI

Church Office: 262-629-5914 / website: www.zionallenton.org

Pastor cell phone: 262-483-0407 / e-mail: revsdb@aol.com



#### Welcome to God's House

Would you look directly at the sun? Only if you wanted to burn your retinas and have permanent blind spots. Would you like to look directly at God? It sounds wonderful in theory. Yet Scripture describes God's glory as



being brighter than the sun. Moreover, one component of God's glory is his holiness. Being holy doesn't just mean God loves good; he also hates evil with burning intensity. And we sin every day. No wonder the Lord once told Moses, "No one may see

me and live" (Exodus 33:20). Sinners would die of fear if they saw God in all his holy glory.

So, how then can we possibly know God? How can we draw near to him without dying of terror? In our final epiphany moment of this season, God explains. God hides his glory to reveal himself. To carry out his good and glorious work of salvation, Jesus hid his glory and went to the cross. To allow sinners to stare at his glory without fear or harm, God hides it in the gospel. The gospel shows the glory of Christ's love, power, and salvation. The reality is that when God's glory is hidden, it is most on display.

#### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

#### **Opening Hymn**

Beautiful Savior #522

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration now and forevermore be thine!

#### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **Opening Dialogue**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some

and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

## See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

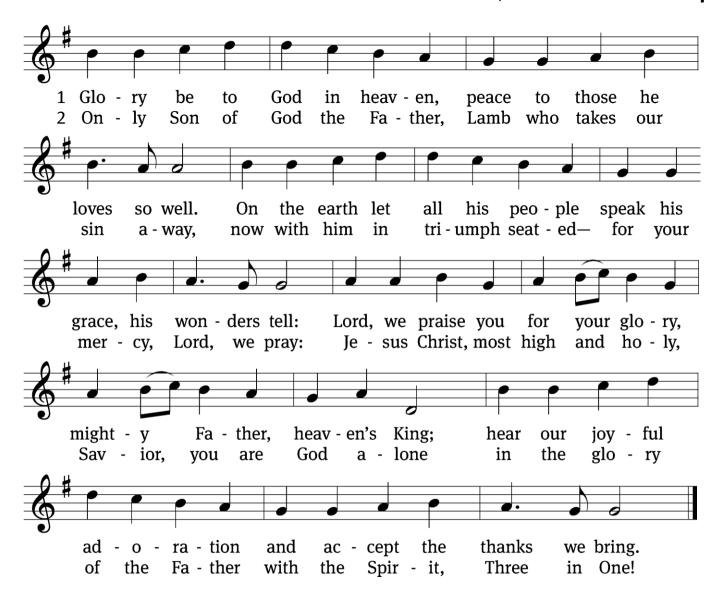
### The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

## The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.



#### THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

#### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading Exodus 34:29-35

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the Lord had given him on Mount Sinai.

<sup>33</sup> When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. <sup>34</sup> But whenever he entered the Lord's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

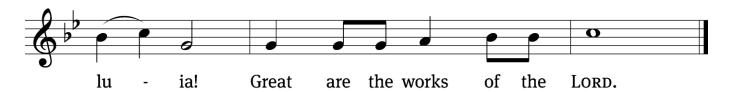
Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm of the Day

#### Great Are the Works of the LORD - 2D











Why do the nations / conspire and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / gainst the Lord and against his A- / nointed. *Refrain* 

The One enthroned in / heaven laughs; the Lord / scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying, "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / mountain." *Refrain* 

I will proclaim the / Lord's decree:

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your / Father." Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be-/ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

<sup>7</sup> Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, transitory though it was, 8 will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? 9 If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! 10 For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. <sup>11</sup> And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts! <sup>12</sup> Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. <sup>13</sup> We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. 15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

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

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Mark 9:7** 

Alleluia! A cloud covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 9:28-36

<sup>28</sup> About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. <sup>30</sup> Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. <sup>31</sup> They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. <sup>33</sup> As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)

<sup>34</sup> While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

#### Hymn of the Day

## Down from the Mount of Glory #388

Down from the mount of glory came Jesus Christ, our Lord. Recall the wondrous story, rich gem in sacred Word. Again your faith will view him in double glory here; the greater homage due him will in your life appear.

Transfigured, Christ, the lowly, stood radiant in the light, light found in Godhead solely, for human eyes too bright.

Then came a voice from heaven, confirmed what here we see; the words "my Son" were given to seal his deity.

Yet mark this glory hidden! See him the mount descend and, by the Father bidden, his willing footsteps bend to seek humiliation in deepest depths of woe, to suffer degradation no mind can probe or know.

Strange how his journey ended! In love that is his fame our Lord again ascended a mount—the hill of shame. Upon the cross he proffered himself to agony; his holy soul he offered to set the guilty free.

Then hail the double glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and let the wondrous story full peace and joy afford!

The holy mount acclaims him the majesty divine;

Mount Calvary proclaims him Redeemer—yours and mine.

Sermon

2 Corinthians 3:7-18

Please stand

#### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

#### **Prayer of the Church**

Eternal God and Father, we pray for the Church around the world. Always keep your people faithful to you. Lift the veil from our eyes and guide us to see Christ in the Word and sacraments. During all the distractions of life, help us set our sights on Jesus. Keep us safe and protect us from the tricks and treachery of the devil. Lord, in your mercy:

#### Hear our prayer.

We pray that you move us to have compassion on those stumbling in the darkness and empower us to proclaim Christ to all who have no faith. Give us courage to be unashamed of the light you have given us and to carry it willingly with joy wherever we go and whatever we do. Lord, in your mercy:

#### Hear our prayer.

Hear our prayers for Christians everywhere who are being persecuted because of the light they bear. Give them the strength to endure the hardships they are undergoing and give them the peace and hope of Christ as they battle on. [We pray especially for...] Lord, in your mercy:

#### Hear our prayer.

We pray that Christ reveals his gracious presence to all who suffer. We pray especially for our families and those in our circle of friends who are sick or

in need and for everyone whose needs we hold in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy:

## Hear our prayer.

Be with us, Lord, as we think about the coming days of Lent. Let your law convince us that we indeed deserve your punishment and would be lost forever without Christ. As our hearts fill with sorrow and regret, lift us up to see the Savior's sacrifice on the cross and give us hearts full of faith in him. Lord, in your mercy:

#### Hear our prayer.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayers and special intercessions

Lord God, hear the prayers we offer and let your grace and mercy flow to us and all for whom we pray. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Light of the world.

Amen.

#### Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

#### Hymn

#### Arise and Shine in Splendor #375

Arise and shine in splendor; let night to day surrender.

Your light is drawing near.

Above, the day is beaming, in matchless beauty gleaming; the glory of the Lord is here.

See earth in darkness lying, the heathen nations dying in hopeless gloom and night.

To you the Lord of heaven—your life, your hope—has given great glory, honor, and delight.

Lift up your eyes in wonder—see, nations gather yonder from sin to be set free.

The world has heard your story; her sons come to your glory, her daughters haste your light to see.

Your heart will leap for gladness when from the realms of sadness they come from near and far.

Your eyes will wake from slumber as people without number rejoice to see the Morning Star.

#### **Prayer**

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

#### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

#### Amen.

#### **Closing Hymn**

### How Good, Lord, to Be Here #389:1-2, 5-6

How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.

How good, Lord, to be here your beauty to behold, where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.

But you, Lord, do not stay. With mercy resolute you leave this glorious hill to die— our perfect substitute.

How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

#### Copyrights / Acknowledgments

1042 Gloria (Ger) - HYMN TO JOY CW 1042

Text: Michael A. Perry

Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

Tune: Public domain

#### 2D Great Are the Works of the LORD Psalm 2D

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

Music: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

#### 388 Down from the Mount of Glory CW 388

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905–1996 Tune: Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635

Text: © 1968 Werner H. Franzmann, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

Tune: Public domain

#### 375 Arise and Shine in Splendor CW 375

Text: Martin Opitz, 1597-1639, abr.; tr. Gerhard Gieschen, 1899-1987, alt.

Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

Tune: Public domain

#### **389 How Good, Lord, to Be Here** *CW* 389 sts. 1–2, 5–6

Text (sts. 1-2, 6): Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.; (st. 5): Bryan Gerlach, b. 1954

Tune: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750, adapt.

Text (st. 5): © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712031

Text (sts. 1-2, 6) and tune: Public domain

#### This Week at Zion

**Today:** 7:30 / 9:45 a.m. Worship

8:30 / 8:45 a.m. Sunday School / Adult Bible study

**Tue:** 12:30 p.m. Pastoral Circuit meeting at KML

**Wed:** 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Soup supper in fellowship hall

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship with Holy Communion

**Thu:** 7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

**Fri** – **Sun:** 7:00 p.m. Luther Prep Musical: *Annie, Get Your Gun* 

**Sat:** 9:00 a.m. Catechism instructions

**Sun:** 7:30 / 9:45 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

8:30 / 8:45 a.m. Sunday School / Adult Bible study

2:00 p.m. Luther Prep Spring Sacred Concert, Watertown

**In Our Prayers** Gary Herman, hospitalized at St. Agnes in Fond du Lac.

**Congratulations** to Dan and Rachel Bartel on the birth of a baby boy – Levi Charles - this past Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. He was baptized at home in a private ceremony on Friday (February 28<sup>th</sup>). May God keep him in his baptismal grace.

**Holy Baptism** Carter Andrew Feucht, son of Marcus and Carried, will be baptized in the late service today (March 2<sup>nd</sup>). He was born on February 17<sup>th</sup>. May God keep Carter in his baptismal grace.

**Ash Wednesday** This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Join us this Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, for a soup supper in the fellowship hall at 6 p.m., followed by our Ash Wednesday worship service at 7 p.m. Make the most of this Lenten season by joining us in God's house for our Lenten worship services.

**Projects & Pizza** All Sunday School children are invited to a night out on Friday night, March 28<sup>th</sup> at church. They'll be making cards to give to our shut-in members, watch a movie and / or play some games and have plenty of food and fun from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Sign up to attend or provide some of the needed items and refreshments by going to <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F45ACAD28A64-55125198-zions">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F45ACAD28A64-55125198-zions</a>

**WELS Youth Night** Teenagers, March 14, from 7-9 p.m. at KML in the PAC. This event is for all youth from 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade. You'll enjoy games, worship, a keynote presentation, breakout sessions, and snacks. Register by scanning the QR code on the bulletin board.

We thank Barb Olsen for serving as our organist this weekend.

**Overcome Evangelism Anxiety** You are invited to attend the remaining webinars of "*Preparing to Proclaim*." It will address barriers, myths, and fears of evangelism by examining how Jesus prepared his disciples to proclaim the Good News. Go to <a href="www.zionallenton.org">www.zionallenton.org</a> – and you'll find a link to register for the remaining sessions.

**Greeters Needed!** Sign up to greet for one of our 3 services each weekend by going to <a href="www.zionallenton.org">www.zionallenton.org</a> and clicking on the button near the bottom of the home page. It's an important yet easy way to be involved in your church.

**Pick up** a new church calendar, newsletter and *Forward in Christ* from the cabinets in the entryway. The new *Meditations* (starting today) are also available there.

**Sacred Concert** Please join us as the KML bands and choirs glorify the Lord through song at the Sacred Concert next **Tuesday**, **March 11**, **at 6:30 PM**. Can't make it in person? Watch online at <a href="mailto:kmlhs.org/stream">kmlhs.org/stream</a>.

**You Are Invited** to Luther Prep for a performance of their 2025 musical: *Annie Get Your Gun*. Get all the info at <a href="https://lips.wels.net/apps/pages/musical">lps.wels.net/apps/pages/musical</a> or

call LPS at 920.261.4352. Performances will be this weekend, March 7-9... all at 7:00 p.m.

**Preschool Open House** On Saturday, March 15 from 10:00-11:30, St. Lucas in Kewaskum will be hosting a preschool open house. Come do a craft, see (and play in) the classroom, and meet the teachers, including Mrs. Young who just accepted the call to teach at St. Lucas!