



# Transfiguration SUNDAY

February 11, 2024

8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Henrik Sonntag, Pastor

120 N. Easton Road

Glenside, PA

215-884-3005

# GATHERING

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THE PRELUDE *Paeon – A Song of Praise*

Craig Phillips

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen. OR**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

# OPENING HYMN

No. 315 How Good, Lord, to Be Here

*Potsdam*

## How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

## GREETING

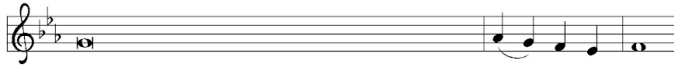
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



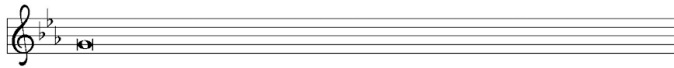
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## 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.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE WORD

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### THE FIRST READING

2 Kings 2:1-12

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

## THE PSALM

Psalm 50:1-6

8:00 *The Psalm will be read responsively with the assembly reading the verses in bold.*

10:30 *The antiphon is introduced by the choir, then is sung by all. The assembly sings the verses in **bold** print.*

Out of Zi - on, per - fect in beau - ty,  
God shines forth in glo - ry.

Psalm 50:2

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

<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****

# THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

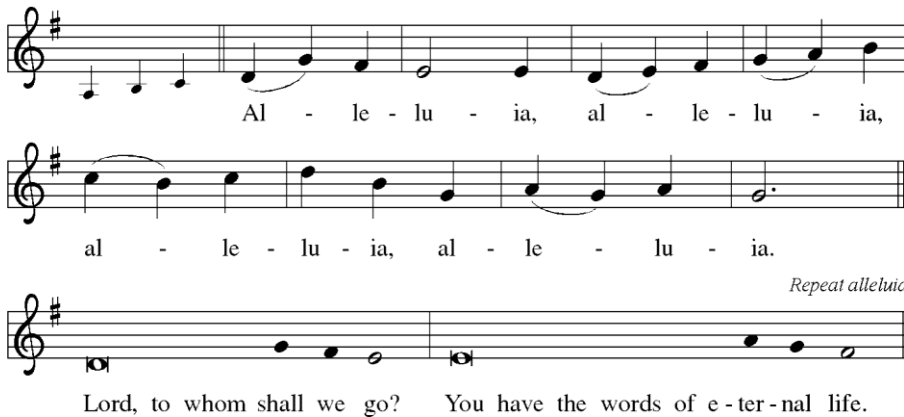
<sup>3</sup>Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim 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.

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

# THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.



# THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the Ninth Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<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.

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

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Henrik Sonntag

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 917 Dazzling Presence on the Mountain

*Waverly*

# Dazzling Presence on the Mountain



1 Daz - zling pres - ence on the moun - tain: hu - man eye had  
2 From this mount of mys - tic splen - dor to the cross Christ  
3 From the heights of new cre - a - tion, Christ be - holds his  
4 Let our praise ring from each moun - tain, in - to deep - est



nev - er seen such a won - der, such re - splen - dence,  
press - es on; here no Mo - ses nor E - li - jah,  
world, re - deemed; as with Pe - ter and com - pan - ions,  
val - leys pour, where, with lives of grate - ful ser - vice,



heav'n and earth in cloud con - vene.  
on - ly thieves Christ's wings a - dorn.  
brings us now to sights un - seen.  
we a - dore Christ ev - er - more.



“This is my Son, the be - lov - ed,” thun - d'rous voice from  
“Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,” was one's pen - i -  
Jus - tice, mer - cy, and com - pas - sion: these the booths he  
To the Son, God's own be - lov - ed, and the Spir - it



cloud ex - claimed. Word made flesh to heal cre - a - tion,  
ten - tial sigh. With trans - fig - ur - ing as - sur - ance,  
bids us build, that the earth he loves may flour - ish  
end - less - ly, may the church's praise be lift - ed



to dis - ci - ples God pro - claimed.  
Christ re - joins his fer - vent cry.  
as each life with grace is filled.  
to the bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Text: Paul E. Hoffman, b. 1956

Music: WAVERLY, Karen E. Black, b. 1960

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Please kneel or sit for the prayers:* This week's response is: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for any who are sick and suffering especially all those on our prayer list. Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*All greet each other with Christ's gesture of peace saying "Peace be with you."*

*Please be seated*

# MEAL

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## OFFERING

8:00 a.m. Organ Selection

10:30 a.m. *The Divine Image* William Blake/Jonathan Adams  
The Chancel Choir

### **The Divine Image**

*By William Blake (1757-1827)*

*To Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love  
All pray in their distress;  
And to these virtues of delight  
Return their thankfulness.*

*For Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love  
Is God, our father dear,  
And Mercy, Pity, Peace, and Love  
Is Man, his child and care.*

*For Mercy has a human heart,  
Pity a human face,  
And Love, the human form divine,  
And Peace, the human dress.*

*Then every man, of every clime,  
That prays in his distress,  
Prays to the human form divine,  
Love, Mercy, Pity, Peace.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

OFFERTORY No. 692 We Are an Offering

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering." The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes).

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Concludes with ... **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## THE SANCTUS

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

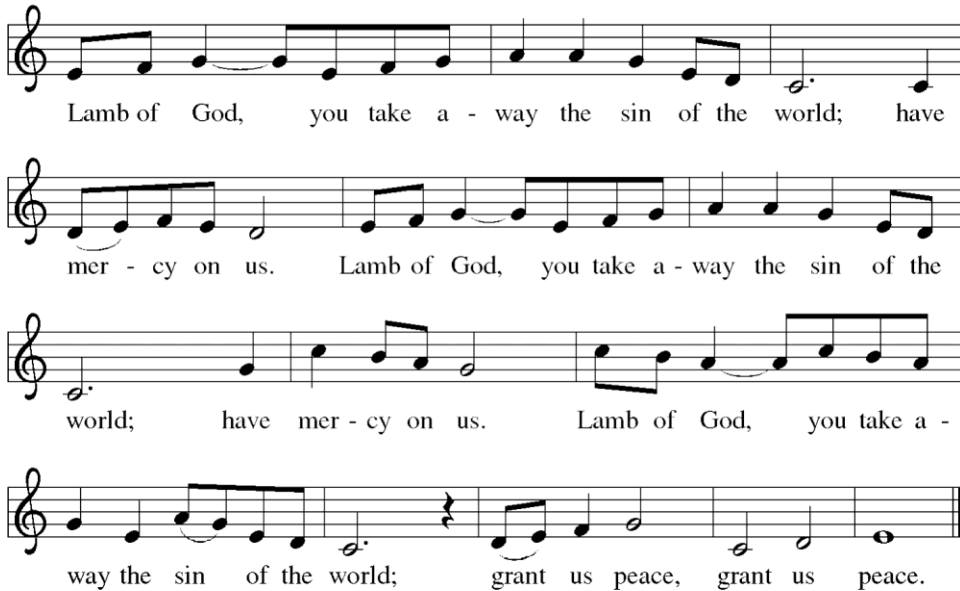
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*Please be seated.*

## THE COMMUNION

"Lamb of God"

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Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

No. 317 Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Bethold

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now Lord, You Let Your Servant Go in Peace

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Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Concludes with **Amen**.

## SENDING

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THE BLESSING

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THE SENDING HYMN

No. 316 Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair

*Deo Gracias*

# Oh, Wondrous Image, Vision Fair



1 Oh, won - drous im - age, vi - sion fair of  
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh the in -  
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ  
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by  
5 O Fa - ther, with the\_e - ter - nal Son, and



glo - ry that the church may share, which Christ up - on the  
car - nate Lord holds con - verse high, and from the cloud, the  
deigns to man - i - fest to - day what glo - ry shall be  
this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y; for which in joy - ful  
Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one, we pray you, bring us



moun-tain shows, where bright - er than the sun he glows!  
Ho - ly One says, "This is my be - lov - ed Son."  
theirs a - bove who joy in God with per - fect love.  
song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.  
by your grace to see your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: DEO GRACIAS, English ballad, 15th cent.

*Please be seated for the announcements.*

## PARISH NOTICES AND JOYS

**SENDING:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**THE POSTLUDE** *Agincourt Hymn (Deo Gracias)* John Dunstable  
10:30 a.m. Benjamin Sonntag, organist