

WELCOMING WORD *The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with their disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The mighty one, God the Lord, has spoken;

C: calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

L: Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,

C: God shines forth in glory.

L: Our God will come and will not keep silence;

C: with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

L: The heavens declare the righteousness of God's cause,

C: for it is God who is judge.

OPENING HYMN #526 *Immortal, Invisible* (vs. 1, 2, 4)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting,
nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: 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.

P: How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness. **Amen.**

INVOCATION

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God,

C: 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 LESSON: 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.

SECOND LESSON: 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.

GOSPEL: MARK 9:2-9 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.

MESSAGE Intern Tamara Siburg

HYMN #89 *How Good, Lord, to be Here*

How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night.
Your face and garments, like the sun, shine with un-borrowed light.

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

Fulfiller of the past and hope of things to be,
We hail your body glorified and our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, we see your kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright and make this hill our home.

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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

BENEVOLENCE PRESENTATION Racial Justice Programming

OFFERTORY 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

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, Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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, Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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, Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For all who suffer this day (*especially*), that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace, Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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, Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: 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, Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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.

C: Amen.

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

BENEDICTION *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.*

CLOSING HYMN: #651 Shine, Jesus, Shine

REFRAIN

Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Father's glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with love and mercy.

Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, the light of your love is shining in the midst of the darkness, shining.

Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us.

Shine on me; shine on me. **REFRAIN**

As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness,

Ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.

Shine on me; shine on me. **REFRAIN**



OUR SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS are with Duane & Laura Miller and family. Their son-in-law, Scott Mauer, died on February 2.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Devon Schlegel (father of Dawn Haag)

Norbert Haag (brother of Virgil Haag)

Allen Olson (father of Ingrid Frank)

Delores Bryant

Brock Howe

Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher)

Jeannie U'Ren

Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother)

Irene Brufat

Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower)

Harlan Oimoen

Grace Aavang

Vivian Stone

Ginger Quaderer (Diane Mueller's cousin)

Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg)

Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson)

Makenzee Smith

Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith)

Mary Krantz

Ruth Ann Nemet

Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl)

Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt)

Bill Steinhauer

Peter Toniazzo

Shirley Thompson

Bonnie Bender

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP – video of worship available on Facebook, YouTube and church website beginning at 11:00 a.m. Zoom gathering for worship begins at 7:00 p.m. – watch email for zoom link.

ELC 'VIRTUAL' CHOIR will be featured in Ash Wednesday Worship

YOUTH WEEKLY CLASSES ON ZOOM:

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets on **Sundays at 9:00am**
CONFIRMATION meets on **Wednesdays at 7:00pm**

ELC 'COFFEE TIME' on ZOOM Join us on **Wednesdays at 10:00am** each week to catch up with our church family. Time to connect and see each other! Zoom link is emailed each week. If you need the link, contact Pastor John, Tamara or Brenda.

CONFIRMATION CAMP (SAVE THE DATE) ELC will be attending the Confirmation Camp at Sugar Creek Bible Camp the week of **July 25 - July 30**. 7th-8th graders are encouraged to attend. Register online: <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org>.

SUGAR CREEK "BACK IN THE SADDLE" Online Registrations are now available for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Summer programs. They have a variety of programs (new & favorites) listed on their website, <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org>, for youth and families. Come and see in 2021!



FUSE NIGHTS on ZOOM Youth, who are 9th - 12th graders are welcome to join our high school group on ZOOM, **Tuesdays, February 9th and 23rd at 7:00pm**. Time for games and a chance to connect. Email Brenda for the link.

ELC PAINTING CLASS ELC Ministries (Children & Youth; Spiritual Growth & Fellowship) invite you to join us on **March 6th, 9:00am – 12:00pm**, on Zoom for an opportunity to paint a picture together. Our class will be led by Sarah Gerg. She is from Mt Horeb, and currently studying at Rhode Island School of Design. She will guide everyone 'step by step' to complete a springtime painting. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please RSVP to brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org by **February 15th**. Materials will be available for pickup prior to the workshop. Our fee for the class is \$15/person to help with the costs of the materials. Looking forward to this opportunity!

ELC PAINTING CLASS (on ZOOM)
with Sarah Gerg
March 6th, 9 am – 12 pm

Join us painting this springtime painting!

Please RSVP to brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org by February 15th.

FEE: \$15.00/person

Hosted by ELC Ministries (Children & Youth; Spiritual Growth & Fellowship)

LUTHERAN CHURCH
of Mount Horeb

The graphic features a painting of yellow flowers and a sun on a blue background, with the church logo at the bottom.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14, 2021

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding
Monday, Psalm 110:1-4, Assurance of Victory for God's Priest-King
Tuesday, Job 19:23-27, Know that My Redeemer Lives
Wednesday, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21, Concerning Almsgiving & Prayer
Thursday, Psalm 25:1-10, Prayer for Guidance and Deliverance
Friday, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Paul's Charge to Timothy
Saturday, Matthew 9:2-13, Healing and Calling

TALK: Consider some of these ideas: *"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"* (Mark 9:2-4). Jesus and three of his disciples went up a mountain when Jesus was transfigured before their eyes and they finally are better able to see and understand who Jesus truly is, that he is more than a prophet. He truly is God's son.

- If anyone started visibly glowing and changing in appearance in front of your eyes, how would you feel?
- When have you been aware of Jesus' presence in your life?
- Were these moments "mountain top" experiences or more of "low valley" experiences?
- How has your interactions with others and all of creation change after experiences when you have been made aware of Jesus' and God's presence in your life?

PRAY: 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.**

BLESS: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter keep you in peace. **Amen.**