

Our Mission

"to serve God and share the good news of Jesus Christ"

Transfiguration of Our Lord
February 14, 2021

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Prelude

Cathy Namock, organist

"Lead on Oh King Eternal" by Gregg Sewell

GATHERING

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

C: **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.**

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

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn

Hymn #318

"Alleluia, Song of Gladness" (vs. 1 & 4)

Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die;
alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;
in the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally.

In our hymns we pray with longing: Grant us, blessed Trinity,
at the least to keep glad Easter with the faithful saints on high;
there to you forever singing alleluia joyfully.

Prayer of the Day

P: 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.

Children's Message

WORD

First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Terri Reid, bells; Gene Fougner, piano

“Soon and Very Soon” (Andre Crouch/ arr Fougner)

Gospel Reading

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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Pastor Tricia Lowe

“Called to Be Transformed”

Hymn of the Day

Hymn #838

“Beautiful Savior” (vs. 1 & 2)

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 sorrowing spirit sing.

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.*

P: For the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for communities of faith far and near, online and in person and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

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, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: For those responsible for safety and protection: for emergency responders and security guards, for healthcare workers and aides, attorneys and advocates, civil servants and leaders of governments, that they witness to mercy and justice throughout the world, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: For all who suffer this day especially those who are affected by the global pandemic, that Christ our healer transforms sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

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, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: Please offer any other prayers now, either silently or aloud.

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. 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.

P: Gathered together as God's people, we share the words that Jesus taught us:

C: 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; and 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.

Offering

P: We give thanks for the offerings that we have received in the mail, online and in person this past week. These gifts make it possible for us to continue to be the church in the world even when we can't meet in our sanctuary. If you are worshiping with us today and would like to make a donation, please go to our website homepage and click the online giving link.

Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; ourselves, our time, our possession and your Son, Jesus. Use us, and what we have gathered, to show the world your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Benediction

P: May God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter [☩] keep you in peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Hymn #631

“Love Divine, All Love Excelling” (vs. 1)

Love divine, all loves excelling Joy of heav’n, to
earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy
faithful mercies crown. Jesus thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with
Thy salvation, enter ev’ry trembling heart.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Cathy Namock, organist

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (ELW #836) by vanDyke/Beethoven

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As a congregation, we pray for God's guidance on our journey of service to our membership, our community and our world. Pray for Pastor Tricia, the Church Council, and the Ministry Leadership. The church office reviews this list monthly. Please call if your prayer concern is removed earlier than you wish.

Please keep the following in your prayers during this week:

Members

*Alis Seim
Arlene Meder
Bonnie Kain
Bruce Newcomb
Carol Hotten
Chuck Lynch
Chris Spahr
Deanna McDaniel*

*Geri Cottrell
Gwen Savage
Helen Morton
Janice Zimbelman
Joel Smith
Karen Roush
Kat Harley-Mays
Kathy Austin*

*Len Warne
Linda Walkoff
Marilyn Murphy
Marty Watkins
Mary Austin
Nancy Nimocks
Pam MacCleary
Ramona Walker*

*Ron Kovara
Ruth Martindale
Sheila Smilgis
Tom Smith
Wayne Theobald*

Our Family Members in Military and Deployed

Meg Northrup Jim VanScoy Kenneth Lindsay deployed Kuwait – friend of Carl Schulze

Family Members and Friends

*Bill Deffenbaugh – stepfather of Kimberly Goats
Bill & Ruth Garrett – friend of Kimberly Goats
Bill Trancik – fiancé of Sheila Smilgis
Bob Whitney – friend of Emmanuel
Buel McCoy – father of Wendy Woolley
Carol & Rita Kuenne – friend of Mark & Mary Austin
Cheryl Midel – aunt of Wendy Woolley
Charles Dean – great nephew of Gail Kenny
Chris Vettore – daughter of Ron Kovara
Connie Miller & son Trevor – friends of Carl Schulze
Cris & Susie – brother & sister of Clara Farmer
Dawn Byars – stepsister of Kimberly Goats
Dan Lowe – brother-in-law of Pastor Tricia
Doug Bayle – nephew of Phyllis Pohlman
Doug Becker – friend of Jim McIntyre
Edie Hales – mother of Cheryl Miller
Edward Kelly – friend of Mark & Mary Austin
Grant – grandson of Dan & Carol Cwach
Jack Gregory – friend of Ellen Rosfeld
Joann Harlib – mother of Scott Harlib
Joshua Diebel – stepbrother of Tawnya Worthington
Julie Ward – daughter of Chuck & Kathy Guenther
Kelly Smith – daughter of Bobbe Serena Wayman
Kris Franklin – friend of Wendy Woolley
Leroy Goats – father-in-law of Kimberly Goats
Linda Vallner – sister of Ron Kovara
Marie – Clara Farmer's son's mother-in-law
Mark Erickson – friend of Mark & Mary Austin
Mark Kovara – son of Ron Kovara
Marilyn Boston – cousin of Sue & Tom Smith
Mary Leavy – mother of Kathie Siggs
Merle MacCleary – father of Pam MacCleary
Miranda & Brad Rebholz – granddaughter and grandson of Jim & Carole Rebholz
Phil Miller – friend of Emmanuel*

*Rev. Paul Meier – former pastor of Larry & Sonya Mahler
Rich, Carol, daughter of Rachel & Granddaughter of Audrey, friend to Larry & Sonya Mahler
Rosemary – neighbor of Mary Wakimoto
Rudy & Lena Juarez – friends of Julie Chisholm
Sam Crifasi – friend of Larry Mahler
Sara Watts – daughter of Don & Mary Watts
Sarah Mulligan – daughter of Carol Wade
Star Campbell – friend of Bob Saul
Stefanie O'Donnell – daughter of Shelby & Carol Tate
Trisha Galindo – daughter of Gary & Jean Kiser
Wayne Wallingford – brother of Sheila Smilgis*

Someone is in the church office weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., but the church doors will be locked. Please knock upon arriving or call first. Please note that we are now requesting that everyone wear masks when they enter the church building. Don't be surprised when Mary and Pastor Tricia put theirs on when you come in! With the rise in cases of the virus in our community, we want to make sure we use all safety precautions to protect the most vulnerable among us.

The church has purchased Lenten Devotional booklets for each family. I think it will be great to know that we are all reading the devotions at the same time as we travel this Lenten Journey together. Please stop by the church to pick one up if you can, it will save us the postage! Also a new photo directory is in the works. We hope to have it available by the end of the month.

MISSION OUTREACH for the month of February is Child Haven (a division of Arizona's Children Association). Child Haven is a crisis nursery program that provides services to families with young children. The mission of Child Haven is to empower families to affect change and find solutions to critical issues by providing a unique and vital service, focused on the concept of families helping families.

The purposes are implemented by the following:

- providing crisis nursery care in voluntary family homes
- offering a 24-hour information and referral service
- collection and distribution of donations to help meet the needs of the families
- Advocating for children and families in our communities

Aluminum Cans – Emmanuel is still collecting cans. Please bring to the church and deposit in the container held in the dumpster area.

Food Pantry – At this time, the food pantry prefers monetary donations so they can purchase the needed items. Donations can be mailed to the church.

Thrivent Member Action Cards – Each member is allocated two card per years of \$250.00 each. If you have not used our action cards, please consider applying for a card to support the Interfaith Meal.

Interfaith Meal – Next meal will be February 26, 11:00 a.m. If you are able to help, please let Mary know.

From the Staff – Thanks to all who contributed to the staff Christmas bonus. We are all most grateful.