

Concordia Lutheran Church & St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Morning Prayer for the Sundays after the Epiphany
February 14, 2021

Topic: The Last Sunday after the Epiphany, The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Time: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82324470555?pwd=Z3dCRVpwSlpjaTRZXQvRHpmaUhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2447 0555

Password: 0000

Use your telephone to call this number and enter the ID and Password.

You will be able to speak and to hear the service.

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Introduction to the Day: The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three 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, St. 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.

PRELUDE: Song Without Words

Mendelssohn, *Kelly Sharp*

THE OFFICE OF MATINS, MORNING PRAYER

DIALOGUE & DOXOLOGY

Reverend Johnson

O Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia!

PSALMODY – Psalm 95:1-7a ... *the Venite*

Pastor Marschhausen

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

Come, let us sing to the Lord:

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

Come, let us sing to the Lord:

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.

The sea is yours, for you made it; and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us sing to the Lord:

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Come, let us sing to the Lord:

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

GATHERING HYMN

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

ELW #424

1 Ye watchers and ye holy ones, bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!"

Cry out, dominions, princedoms, pow'rs, archangels, virtues, angel choirs:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 O higher than the cherubim, more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises: "Alleluia!"

Thou bearer of the eternal Word, most gracious, magnify the Lord:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3 Respond, ye souls in endless rest, ye patriarchs and prophets blest:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!"

Ye holy twelve, ye martyrs strong, all saints triumphant, raise the song:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 O friends, in gladness let us sing, supernal anthems echoing:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!"

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Reverend Johnson

from BCP

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty; who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the Highest

ELW, Setting Two

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

The First Reading – Second Kings 2:1-12

Reader from St. Mary's

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel – Mark 9:2-9

Deacon Winzler proclaims the Gospel...

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.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark ...

Glory to you, O Lord.

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 the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Wondrous Image, Vision Fair

ELW #316

- 1 Oh, wondrous image, vision fair of glory that the church may share, which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun he glows!
- 2 With Moses and Elijah nigh the'incarnate Lord holds converse high, and from the cloud, the Holy One says, "This is my beloved Son."
- 3 With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest today what glory shall be theirs above who joy in God with perfect love.
- 4 And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery; for which in joyful song we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.
- 5 O Father, with the 'eternal Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one, we pray you, bring us by your grace to see your glory face to face.

HOMILY

Pastor Marschhausen

A Moment for Reflection

Pastor Marschhausen

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

THE BENEDICTUS – Song of Zechariah, Luke 1:68-79, ELW

Reverend Johnson

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

**Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.**

You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.

**In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us.**

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us, to show mercy to our forebears,

and to remember your holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship you without fear,
holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

THE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE *Leader from Concordia*

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

Brief Silence

We praise you, O God, for the precious gift of your Son. We bless you for the revelation of your will in our Savior's glorious Transfiguration on the holy mountain. By this mighty sign, give to all people a clearer vision and deeper knowledge of Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church throughout the world that it may not be content to "remain on the mountain" marveling in the glory of the Lord's Transfiguration; but rather it may have confidence to proclaim Christ's gospel of justice and salvation, and be a lamp shining to a sin-filled world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In this time of great uncertainty and restlessness in our country and world, we pray for the leaders and peoples of all nations..... and for peace. We pray that leaders may serve in humility and be driven by God's mighty hand to act with justice and righteousness on behalf of the whole creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, you made your dwelling place at the top of the mountain with Jesus and his disciples. We pray that you will dwell also in all people throughout the world, that all might be transformed by your dazzling brilliance. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that the comfort of your abiding presence may touch the lives of all in need, especially those suffering from COVID 19, the lonely, the unemployed, the sick, the dying, those who mourn and all others in need. May they know the transforming light of your presence in their lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, renew our commitment to the work and will of our Savior; that by the witness of our worship in Word, Sacrament and action, we declare that Christ dwells with us and in us. Be with the congregations of Concordia, Emanuel, Faith and St. Mary's as we begin our Lenten contemplation together this week. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we remember with thanksgiving the lives of all your saints who have preceded us. Following their examples, keep us steadfast in faith and hope so that we too, at this life's end – changed from glory into glory – may see your glory face to face. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With all the people of God, with the church throughout the ages bearing witness to the great light of God shining in dark places, we commend to you all for whom we pray, merciful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor Marschhausen

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation.
I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

I am baptized into your death and resurrection.

I seek you daily. I worship and adore you.

Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine,

I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul,

as you always have,

through Confession and Forgiveness,

through the proclamation of your holy Word,

and through the prayers of your people;

that I may remain united to you

by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit.

Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace.

Be for me the manna in my wilderness,

the bread of angels for my very human journey through time,

a foretaste of the heavenly banquet,

and solace in the hour of my death.

And return us all, Lord Jesus, to your Holy Table when this is over.

I pray all this, trusting that you are our life,

our peace, and our everlasting joy. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Intercessions and Thanksgivings follow...

Reverend Johnson

Now I invite your prayers for all the needs of the world God so loved, silently or aloud.

After each petition we pray, Lord, in your mercy. Hear our Prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Pastor Marschhausen

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep you; *N.* and *N.* God mercifully grant you the riches of grace, that you may please God both in body and soul. God make you a sign of the loving-kindness and steadfast fidelity manifest in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior, and, living together in faith and love, may receive the blessings of eternal life. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Reverend Johnson

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Pastor Marschhausen

Let us pray. O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, the Father,  the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

ELW #392

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.
As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest,
here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.
- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

THE BURYING OF THE ALLELUIA

Reverend Johnson

Today we “bury the Alleluia” in anticipation of Ash Wednesday and the silencing of the Alleluia until the Easter Vigil. Were we able to, we would create an Alleluia banner to ‘bury’ as we bid a temporary farewell to the Alleluia so that our “fast” creates a sense of anticipation and ever greater joy when it reappears on the Day of the Resurrection.

I heard a great voice of many people in heaven saying, Alleluia: Salvation and glory and honor and power be to the Lord our God. And again they said: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord shall reign for ever and for ever! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

There is a time to laugh and a time to weep; a time to dance and a time to mourn. As we enter the holy season of Lent, let us accept our need to renew our repentance and faith. Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with Christ in the joy of his resurrection. Until the day when Christ’s resurrection is celebrated with joy and gladness, we commit our joyful ALLELUIA to God who gave it.

Let us pray

God of all mercy, look with favor on your people gathered here. Create in us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us. In your great compassion, give us the joy of your saving help again. Accomplish in us the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. We ask this in Christ’s name. Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and giving life to those in the tomb. **In the water of Baptism we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection.**

Today our ALLELUIA dies until with Christ it rises at his glorious resurrection. When he died, he died to sin, once for all but the life he lives, he lives to God. So also consider yourselves dead to sin, and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen!**

Deacon Fedorchak dismisses the assembly...

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE: Alleluyas

Simon Preston; *John Anderson*

NOTES:

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DAILY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 15-20

Monday, February 15

Psalm 110:1-4

Exodus 19:7-25

Hebrews 2:1-4

Tuesday, February 16

Psalm 110:1-4

Job 19:23-27

1 Timothy 3:14-16

Wednesday, February 17

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 *or* Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thursday, February 18

Psalm 25:1-10

Daniel 9:1-14

1 John 1:3-10

Friday, February 19

Psalm 25:1-10

Daniel 9:15-25a

2 Timothy 4:1-5

Saturday, February 20

Psalm 25:1-10

Psalm 32

Matthew 9:2-13