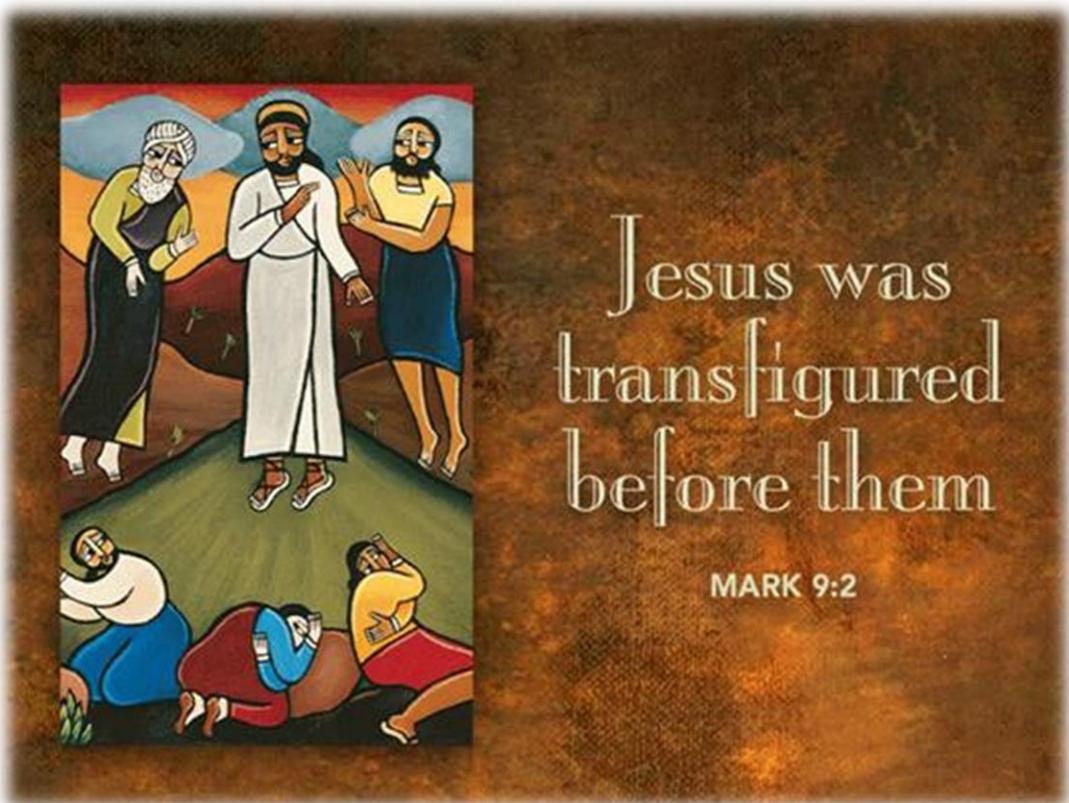




SERVICE OF THE WORD FOR
THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
FEBRUARY 14, 2021

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES ARE IN **BOLD** TYPE



Jesus was
transfigured
before them

MARK 9:2

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the \div Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

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 \div Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Here I Am to Worship"

Tim Hughes

Light of the World, You stepped down in - to dark - ness,
 King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - al - ted,

o - pened my eyes, let me see. Beau - ty that made this
 glo - rious in heav - en a - bove. Hum - bly You came to the

heart a - dore You, hope of a life spent with You.
 Earth You cre - a - ted, all for love's sake be - came poor.

So, here I am to wor - ship, here I am to bow down, Here I am to

say that You're my God. And You're-al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er

wor - thy, al - to - geth - er won - der - ful to me.

And I'll nev - er know how much it cost to see my sin up - on

that cross. And I'll nev - that cross. So here I am to

D.S. al Fine

APOSTOLIC 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.

KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Gloria"

Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Verses

1. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
2. 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.
3. 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! Amen!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop long ago into our hearts today. 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.

A reading from 2nd Kings.

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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

¹The mighty one, God the Lord, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God shines forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgment of the people.**

⁵“Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause, for it is God who is judge.**

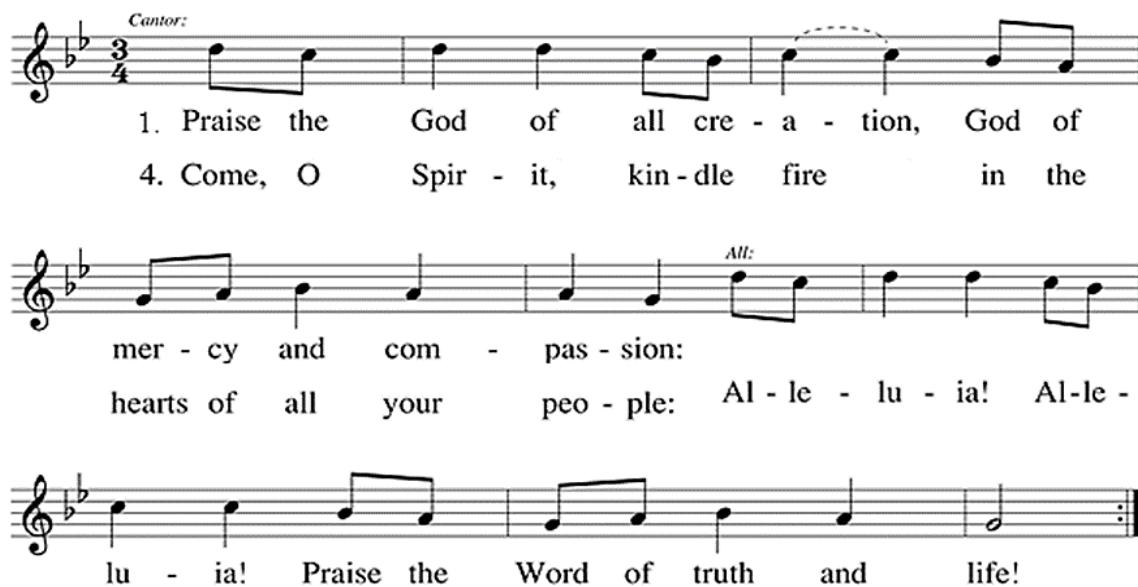
A reading from Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians.

¹Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. 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. ⁷ But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor:



1. Praise the God of all creation, God of
4. Come, O Spir - it, kin - dle fire in the
mer - cy and com - pas - sion:
hearts of all your peo - ple: Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le -
lu - ia! Praise the Word of truth and life!

All:

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, from the 9th chapter. 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 anymore, 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.

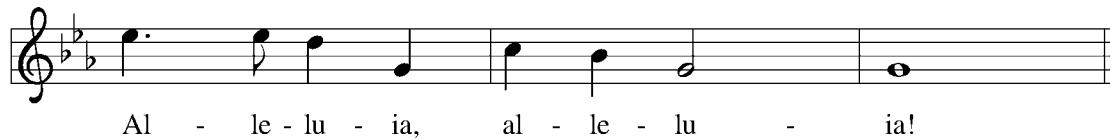
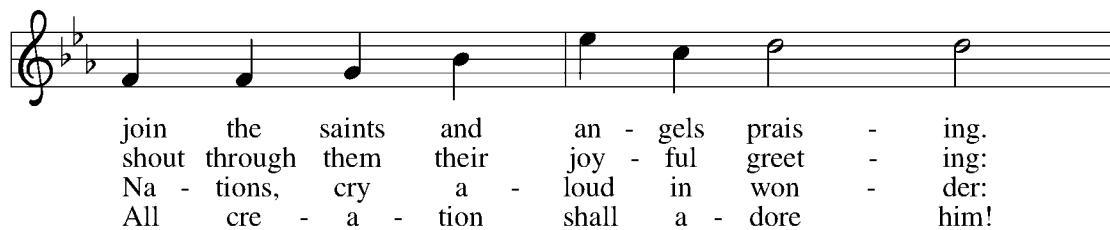
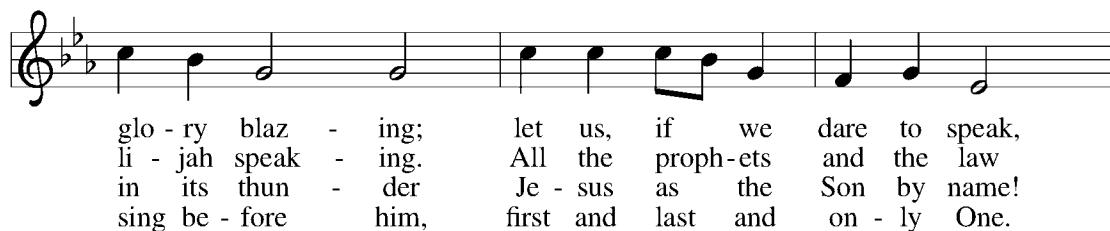
SERMON

Pastor Gregg Hoffmann

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”

ELW 317



NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness
of sins. We look for the  resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

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.

Have mercy, O God.

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, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all who suffer this day, that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace. We lift in prayer our sisters and brothers in Christ: Wayne, Scott, Larry, Steven, Jackie, Vicky, Pat, Julie, Bob, Karen, Neal, Margaret, Kay, Yvonne, Eddie, Steve, John, Bea, Jack, Eric, Doug, Mary, Frank, Bill, Madeline, Theresa, Earl, Barbara, Steven, Kathy, and Ted, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For companions on life's journey - friends we find 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.

Have mercy, O God.

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. We mourn the loss of Martha Mills; we pray for her family and friends as they grieve – remembering especially the family of Skeeter Mills – that they and all who have experienced the death of loved ones are encouraged to entrust them to your eternal care, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

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.

Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE

Our Lord Jesus Christ sent forth his peace long ago, and it has continued to flow through generations of faithful followers. Today, his peace continues in you. The Peace of Christ is with you.

And also with you. Amen.

At this time in our worship, we invite you to share the Peace of Christ with others.

Feel free to share the peace with others nearby, or, if you are alone, give someone a call after worship!

OFFERING

<https://onrealm.org/gracerockhill/-/give/now>

ANTHEM

"Through Love to Light"

Elaine Hagenberg
Virtual Choir

OFFERTORY RESPONSE (*Stand*)**"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together.

O God, receive the gifts we bring like a parent receives their 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

We unite our voices in this time, joining in the prayer that our Lord taught us:

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en,
hal - low-ed be thy name; thy king - dom come; thy
will be done on earth as it is in heav - en.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread; and for -
give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give those who
tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to temp -
ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.
All:
For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for ev - er - more. A - men.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR A TIME OF PANDEMIC

Living together in these days and wearied by all they demand of us; we lift our prayers and hopes to God.

Healing Lord, you know the pain of your people. We pray for those who suffer from this pandemic. Give strength to the sick, to care providers, and to those who are harmed in any way. Console those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Bless us with effective vaccines that are available to all. Make us witnesses for you in this time, so that we, your people, become a sign of Emmanuel. Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, [☩] Son, and Holy Spirit, fill you with light and hope eternal. **Amen.**



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
 2 Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
 3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
 4 In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless-ed Trin - i - ty,



al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear to choirs on high;
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful moth-er, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
 al - le - lu - ia our trans-gres-sions make us for a while for - go;
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith-ful saints on high;



in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn-ing ex - iles still are we.
 for the sol - emn time is com-ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
 there to you for - ev - er sing-ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the light of Christ for the world.

Thanks be to God.

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The Rev. Rachel Hoffman

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Dr. Jeremy Mims

Video Editor

Craig Allen

Cantors

Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz, Nora Sliney, Dee Westbrook

Bulletin

Michelle Cunningham

First Lesson

Mary Hinson

Second Lesson

Nora Sliney

Prayers of Intersession

Ruth Wasserman

Pictures

Members of Grace