

February 10-11, 2024



A Glimpse of His True Glory

Transfiguration Sunday



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org



Last Sunday after Epiphany—Transfiguration

*From Jordan's Shores to Mountain Glory—
A Glimpse of His True Glory*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Heavenly Father, thank you for your blessings of protection and grace during the past week. Hear my prayers and praise as I find rest in your promises here in your house today. Amen.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: "Epiphany" comes from a Greek word that means "reveal." It started with Jesus standing in the Jordan River with John the Baptist. The biggest epiphany took place at a mountain, where select followers saw Jesus shining brighter than the sun. All these epiphanies—these revelations about Jesus—changed the lives of everyone around him. In this season of Epiphany, as we follow Jesus from Jordan's shores to mountain's glory, may they change us too.

THEME OF THE DAY: We began this worship series at the Jordan River. From that day, God revealed more and more truth about Jesus as he demonstrated the extent of his authority and power and love. We have seen Jesus can be no less than the very Son of God! Today, on the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus gives us a glimpse of his true glory. This final epiphany prepares us for the journey of Lent where we will witness the most glorious work that Jesus would do when he came down from this mountain.

A WORD ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: Our church observes the biblical practice of member communion (also called close communion). In Holy Communion we not only receive forgiveness from God, but we also express the unique relationship our members have with each other. If you are not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you not take communion today, but speak with our pastor after the service. We would love to share the sacrament with you in the future.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Organ: Robyn Stoller

Handbell Director: Jessie Wolfe

14940 62nd St N, Stillwater + www.salemlutheran.org + 651-439-7831

church@salemlutheran.org

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



HYMN: How Good, Lord, to Be Here

CW 389 sts. 1-3, 5



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 - fil - ler of the past, and hope of things to be,
5 But you, Lord, do not stay. With mer - cy res - o - lute



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.
you leave this glo - rious hill to die— our per - fect sub - sti - tute.

Please stand.

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

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSIO & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them. (Psalm 32)

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

And we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

Glory Be to God : Beautiful Savior

CW 522 sts. 1, 3-4



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light, bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love thee,
spark - ling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er,
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,



tru - ly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels in the sky.
praise, ad - o - ra - tion now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12a

The prophet Elijah never tasted death but instead was taken directly to heaven. On the Mount of Transfiguration Elijah appeared with the glorious Son of God who would taste death.

¹When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

³The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” Elisha replied, “so be quiet.”

⁴Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

⁵The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” he replied, “so be quiet.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on.

⁷Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?”

“Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied.

¹⁰“You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not.”

¹¹As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹²Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!”

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

We cannot yet physically see what those disciples saw on the Mount of Transfiguration. But Paul teaches we can still see the glory of Christ's light in the gospel.

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Mark 9:2-9

Jesus gives Peter, James, and John a glimpse of his true glory on the Mount of Transfiguration.

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn: Down from the Mount of Glory

CW 388



- 1 Down from the mount of glo - ry came Je - sus Christ, our Lord.
- 2 Trans - fig - ured, Christ, the low - ly, stood ra - diant in the light,
- 3 Yet mark this glo - ry hid - den! See him the mount de - scend
- 4 Strange how his jour - ney end - ed! In love that is his fame
- 5 Then hail the dou - ble glo - ry of Je - sus Christ, our Lord,



Re - call the won - drous sto - ry, rich gem in sa - cred Word.
light found in God - head sole - ly, for hu - man eyes too bright.
and, by the Fa - ther bid - den, his will - ing foot - steps bend
our Lord a - gain as - cend - ed a mount—the hill of shame.
and let the won - drous sto - ry full peace and joy af - ford!



A - gain your faith will view him in dou - ble glo - ry here;
Then came a voice from heav - en, con - firmed what here we see;
to seek hu - mil - i - a - tion in deep - est depths of woe,
Up - on the cross he prof - ered him - self to ag - o - ny;
The ho - ly mount ac - claims him the maj - es - ty di - vine;



the great - er hom - age due him will in your life ap - pear.
the words "my Son" were giv - en to seal his de - i - ty.
to suf - fer deg - ra - da - tion no mind can probe or know.
his ho - ly soul he of - fered to set the guilt - y free.
Mount Cal - va - ry pro - claims him Re - deem - er—yours and mine.

Sermon

Based on 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

"We have seen his glory"

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

Be seated.

Offering



 Connect Card

Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



 Give Online

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

M: Eternal God and Father, we pray for the Church around the world. Always keep your people faithful to you. Lift the veil from our eyes and guide us to see Christ in the Word and sacraments. During all the distractions of life, help us set our sights on Jesus. Keep us safe and protect us from the tricks and treachery of the devil. Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: We pray that you move us to have compassion on those stumbling in the darkness and empower us to proclaim Christ to all who have no faith. Give us courage to be unashamed of the light you have given us and to carry it willingly with joy wherever we go and whatever we do. Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Hear our prayers for Christians everywhere who are being persecuted because of the light they bear. Give them the strength to endure the hardships they are undergoing and give them the peace and hope of Christ as they battle on. Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: We pray that Christ reveals his gracious presence to all who suffer. We pray especially for our families and those in our circle of friends who are sick or in need and for everyone whose needs we hold in our hearts. Lord in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Be with us, Lord, as we think about the coming days of Lent. Let your law convince us that we indeed deserve your punishment and would be lost forever without Christ. As our hearts fill with sorrow and regret, lift us up to see the Savior's sacrifice on the cross and give us hearts full of faith in him. Lord, in your mercy:

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

M: Lord God, hear the prayers we offer and let your grace and mercy flow to us and all for whom we pray. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Light of the world.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. The meal also bears witness to the unity and fellowship we share with each other. Therefore, we invite to communion all those who share in our confession by virtue of their membership here or in a sister WELS or ELS congregation. We ask visitors to speak to the pastor before communing.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -
san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he,

bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

Communion Distribution

For those who cannot have any alcohol for personal or medical reasons we offer white grape juice. You will find cups of white grape juice in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by request for those medically unable to tolerate gluten.

Communicants may choose to receive the wine by individual or common cup. If you choose the common cup, please allow the individual tray to pass and then assist the minister by helping to tip the common cup.

(Saturday) Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord CW 661



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of your Lord,
2 Christ our Re - deem - er, God's e - ter - nal Son,
3 Let us ap - proach with faith - ful hearts sin - cere
4 With heav'n - ly bread he makes the hun - gry whole,



and drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured.
has by his cross and blood the vic - t'ry won.
and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.



Saved by his bod - y and his ho - ly blood,
He gave his life for great - est and for least,
Christ, who in this life all the saints de - fends,
Lord of the na - tions, to whom all must bow,



with souls re - fresh - ed we give our thanks to God.
him - self the of - f'ring and him - self the priest.
gives all be - liev - ers life that nev - er ends.
in this great feast of love be with us now.

(Sunday) Handbell Anthem

God's Love Rings Out

Please stand at the pastor's direction.

Response of Thanksgiving

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **His mercy endures forever.**

Psalm 118:1

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: **We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

1 Corinthians 11:26

Closing Prayer & Blessing

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Farewell to Alleluia

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

Hymn: Alleluia, Song of Triumph

CW 977



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of tri - umph, sound of joy that
2 Al - le - lu - ia we are sing - ing, voic - ing hymns in
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while
4 May our hymns be filled with long - ing— hear us, Ho - ly



can - not die; al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
pure ac - cord, with Christ's ho - ly Church u - nit - ed,
here be - low; al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty— as we look to your blest East - er,



ev - er dear to choirs on high; saints a - dorned in
jus - ti - fied, re - deemed, re - stored, and with all his
make us for a while for - go. For the sol - emn
here, and then e - ter - nal - ly, when we shall once



robes of glo - ry join the great an - gel - ic cry.
faith - ful peo - ple raise our songs to praise the Lord.
time is com - ing when our tears for sin must flow.
more be sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:15am in the kindergarten room. Please ask an usher if you need directions. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs

For Worship on Ash Wednesday

Worship theme: God on Trial—Accusations

Hymns: 393, 394, 677, 396

For Worship Next Sunday

Worship theme: Rethinking Trials, Tests, and Temptations

Bible Readings: Genesis 22:1-18, Romans 8:31-39, Mark 1:12-15

Hymns: 404, 864, 525, 833

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Also printed in the hymnal)

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Welcome to worship!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help. Please take note of a few helpful things:

- † **Restrooms** are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance. Both men's and women's restrooms are equipped with **diaper changing tables** for your convenience.
- † Our sanctuary is equipped with an amplified "loop" system for **hearing assistance**. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position.
- † You will find a **connection card** in your pew. We ask members and guests to share their names and contact info, and invite you to share requests for contact or prayers. Cards can be placed in the offering basket or left on the table near the sanctuary entrance.
- † Salem members give an **offering** to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing and pray and grow with us in our services. Please note these special worship aids and helps for families:

- † Children's bulletins & "*quiet bags*" for your child's use in worship are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- † If your child needs to be nursed or quieted for a few moments you can use our "*cry room*" down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is shown live on a TV in the room.
- † Sunday mornings, before the hymn of the day and sermon, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for a short devotion on God's Word. Parents may accompany their children as they wish.

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

