

**Transfiguration Sunday
February 11, 2024
(Conclusion of Epiphany)**



Thought: There are moments of truth that change the way we see God and the world. Sometimes we are allowed to see beyond the veil. We have a brief glimpse of God, and we take that vision with us into our daily lives. We continue our journey in this world and God helps us move through the valleys on our way to Easter resurrection.

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

P: May our lives transfigured by the peace and presence of Christ be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

L: As Elisha witnessed the ascension of his master:

C: **“Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!”**

L: As the psalmist bespoke your power:

C: “Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth!”

L: As your disciples’ eyes beheld your Son:

C: “And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white –“

L: so we have witnessed your glory, O Glorious God.

C: “God shines forth!”

Gathering Hymn – “Beautiful Savior”

ELW #838

<https://youtu.be/3WhTfEYmfcM>

by Tabernacle Choir

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C: Amen.

Greeting

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.

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

For the Peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen and Amen.

Hymn of Praise – “Praise the Lord! O Heavens” ELW #823

<https://youtu.be/nNvoTbO8JFg>
by Grace Community Church

Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts.

C: 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.

Preparing for the Word

L: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as God himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

L: The Lord is eager to proclaim good news. Let us prepare to receive it.

The Word

Old Testament reading – 2 Kings 2:1-12
Elijah taken up to heaven and succeeded by Elisha.

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**

Psalm 50:1-6

God shines forth in glory.

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun ¹ 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 ¹ 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 ¹ who is judge.**

Epistle reading – 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

God’s light seen clearly in the face of Christ.

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Holy Gospel – Mark 9:2-9

<https://youtu.be/6g219nhlyHU?si=84cGUv0YNTXCjkxk>

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you O Lord.**

This is my beloved son, listen to him!

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.**

Children of God Time

<https://youtu.be/QYglhzi5a2w?si=rje7kIV0DrpYk5Y6>

Message: “Listen to Him”

<https://youtu.be/sqsXIHU2DFE?si=aYO5IS6aQWlldRxP>

Hymn of the Day – “How Good, Lord, to Be Here!” ELW #315

<https://youtu.be/dHcDijAt90E>

by Festival Choir

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead,
on the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

P: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

L: We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to

care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for any who are sick and suffering (*especially*). Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

L: We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died (*especially*). Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Offering/Offertory Music – “We Give Thee but Thine Own” ELW #686

Offertory Prayer

L: O God, great Giver of all that is, give one more thing:

C: a desire to know you as you truly are.

L: We open our hearts and our hands to you,

C: even as you have opened our eyes.

L: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution

Communion Music – Lillian Pinkston

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

L: You have made your true self known to us O Christ:

C: on the mountain...at the table.

L: Make us witnesses of your great mysteries,

C: that we may bear witness...that we may shine.

L: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction from Numbers 6 – Pastor

Sending Hymn – “Arise, Your Light Has Come!” ELW #314

<https://youtu.be/7K2D72AAY9w>
by Central Presbyterian Church

Dismissal

L: Go in Peace. On the mountain, in the valleys, Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston

