



Salem Lutheran Church  
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

**Welcome to the House of the Lord**

Transfiguration of Our Lord  
February 19, 2023 – 9:00am

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**OUR MISSION:** We are God forgiven and mission driven.

**OUR VISION:** To be that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a -forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

**Sunday--9:00am Worship Service**

**Preaching:** Pastor Joel Guttormson

**Organist:** Ruth Sheldon

**Readers:** Sondra Nelson

**Sound:** Chike Ikefuama

**Live Stream:** Brad Evenson

**Acolytes:**

**Ushers:** Al Sterrenberg, Doug Bruhns

**Communion Servers:** Braylon, Kalen, Brain & Krishna Hanson, Shannon Bruhns

**Altar Guild for February:** Joan Kloster and Janet Swenson

**Worship Coordinator:** Becky Helgeson

The Live Stream Broadcast is given in Loving Memory of  
Royden & Lorraine Johnson from their Family.

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## INTRODUCTION

*Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### BELL

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Beloved, thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ☩ Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### 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.**

*We stand for the gathering hymn*

## GATHERING HYMN

*How Good, Lord, to Be Here!*

ELW #315



- 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 - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
- 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
- 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



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.  
 we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
 but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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 TIME** *Meeting God on the Mountain top* Whirl Story Bible p.70

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## WORD

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## FIRST READING

Exodus 24:12-18

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, "Wait

here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

<sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

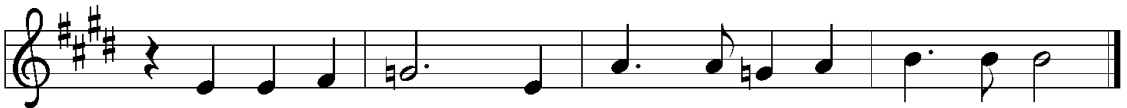
Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY

Psalm 2

*Refrain; will be sung one time through by the cantor or choir and again with the congregation before the reading of the psalm and again one time after verses 4, 8 & 12.*



You are my son; this day have I be - got - ten you.

<sup>1</sup>Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

<sup>2</sup>**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the <sup>1</sup>LORD's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup>“Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

<sup>4</sup>**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the LORD holds them in derision.**

*Refrain;*

<sup>5</sup>Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

<sup>6</sup>**“As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**

<sup>7</sup>Let me announce the decree of the LORD, who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

<sup>8</sup>**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

*Refrain;*

<sup>9</sup>You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

<sup>10</sup>**And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>Submit to the LORD with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

<sup>12</sup>**lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.**

**Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

*Refrain;*



You are my son; this day have I be - got - ten you.

## SECOND READING

2 Peter 1:16-21

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

<sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We stand for the reading of the gospel*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***Shine, Jesus, Shine***

ELW #671





## GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."

<sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesus on the Mountain Peak*

ELW #317



1 Je - sus on the moun - tain peak stands a - lone in  
 2 Trem - bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E -  
 3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came, God pro - claim - ing  
 4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph - ets



glo - ry blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak,  
 li - jah speak - ing. All the proph - ets and the law  
 in its thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name!  
 sing be - fore him, first and last and on - ly One.



join the saints and an - gels prais - ing.  
 shout through them their joy - ful greet - ing:  
 Na - tions, cry a - loud in won - der:  
 All cre - a - tion shall a - dore him!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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**

*We will be seated for the prayers.*

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.  
*A brief silence.*

Embolden your church as it witnesses to the majesty and mercy of your Son. Equip lay preachers, deacons, and pastors. Move us to share our stories of your faithfulness and forgiveness; may our lives proclaim your greatness. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Dwell with your whole creation, from the tallest mountain peak to the deepest valley. Bless the work of conservation organizations and protect vital habitats. Support the work of disaster relief agencies around the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Guide and give wisdom to all in authority: our mayor Fran Ungr and local leaders, our governor Kim Reynolds and state legislators, our president Joe Biden and national legislators. Bring freedom and justice to all nations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Give shelter to those lacking safe homes. Spur communities to work for fair housing for all. Protect our neighbors whose dwellings do not keep out dangerous cold or heat; accompany with your touch those who are homebound, sick, or isolated. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Make us eager to receive your Word in scripture. Help us recognize Jesus' voice in the needs of our neighbors; make us confident to follow the way of the cross. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our thanksgiving for the holy ones who have guided us in faithfulness and gathered even the unlikely as your people. With our forebears in faith and all who have hoped in you, teach us to wait with courage until the promised day dawns. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*The pastor concludes the prayers.*

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

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## **MEAL**

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## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.

**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.**

Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace. From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might.

Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy. We praise your Son, our Morning Star. Christ is our diamond bright, our treasure dear. He is our living Savior who has ransomed us in love. He keeps us yours and fails us never—today, tomorrow, and every day.

On the night before his great salvation, he took bread and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame.

We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. Transport us in our yearning, and be for us the end and the beginning, our purest pleasure, our victorious crown, our never-ending love. **Amen.**

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and taste the joy of God!

## **DISTRIBUTION**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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## SENDING

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### BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✠  
bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*Alleluia, Song of Gladness*

ELW #318



- 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. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

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