

All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA

Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday, February 11, 2024

“Meeting people where they’re at and connecting them to the full life of Christ.”

Centering Hymn — *God Is Here Today ACS 993*



God Is Here Today *Dios está aquí*

Dios es - tá a - quí, tan
God is here to - day; as

cier-to co-mo el ai - re que res - pi - ro, tan
cer - tain as the air I breathe, as

cier-to co-mo la ma - ña - na se le - van - ta, tan
cer - tain as the morn - ing sun that ris - es, as

cier-to co-mo que le can - to y me pue - de o - ír.
cer - tain when I sing you'll hear my song.

Text: Javier Gacias Mateo, b. 1956; tr. C. Michael Hawn, b. 1948
Music: DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ, Javier Gacias Mateo
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Introduction and Announcements

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, 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.

RIC Welcome Statement

At All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA, we value all people regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic level. As a Reconciling In Christ congregation we are committed to being a place where you know that you are loved, valued, and welcome- just as you are. Join us as we Show Up, Do Good, and Be Kind, walking the walk of faith together. Saints and Siblings in Christ- here you are truly welcome!

Gathering Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling ELW 631

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,

serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, Creator of darkness and light, Word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,
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.

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.
Amen.

Gathering

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 eleison, on our world and on our way.

Kyrie eleison, every day.

1 For peace in the world,
for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house,
for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.

4 For your Spirit to guide;
that you center our lives
in the water and the word;
that you nourish our souls
with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord,
let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

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

Children's Message

Traveling Song

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, verse 4

ELW 631

4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

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.**

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:1-7

The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

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, underhanded ways; 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. ³And even 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's 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 Christ. ⁷But 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.

Word of God, Word of Life: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Halle

ELW 172

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Gospel Mark 9:2-9

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.

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.

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Pastor Wes

Hymn of the Day

Arise, Your Light Has Come

ELW 314

- 1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.
- 2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.
- 3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.
- 4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

Prayers of Intercession

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

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,

receive our prayer.

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,

receive our prayer.

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,

receive our prayer.

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,

receive our prayer.

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,

receive our prayer.

Trusting that all of creation is held in your care, we pray for grieving families and those who continue struggling with grief in death and loss. We pray for all who grieve and remember those we name now (*especially*). Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

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.

Peace

Offertory

Freedom Bells Ring for MLK, Mike Lavold

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, Holy One,

for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek

and follow your Son, Jesus,

in whose name we pray.

Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

At This Table, Idina Menzel

Lord's Prayer

Communion Music

Lamb of God **ELW 195**

Come, Let Us Eat **ELW 491**

- 1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together,
our Lord's body let us take together.
- 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.
- 3 In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
In the presence of our Lord we gather,
in the presence of our Lord we gather.
- 4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

Christ Be Our Light **ELW 715**

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

Blessing of the Meal

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Prayer after Communion

Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.
Amen.

Benediction

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn We Are Marching in the Light of God

ELW 866

¹We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

²We are dancing in the light of God,
we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing in the light of God,
we are dancing in the light of God.

³We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.

⁴We are singing in the light of God,
we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of God,
we are singing in the light of God.

Invitation to Service

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray, ask for help, be kind, fulfill a need, forgive, and give thanks.



Prayers of Comfort David & Pat Fleming for his brother Bill Fleming

Hospice Care Sally McCartin, Polly Rhode, Noosa Mikhail

Continued healing Audrey Bredeson, Sandi Lindstrom, Sharon Marcotte, Deb Schnack, Vera Sampson, Gladys, Jeff, Karen, Kathleen, Kaye, Kenia, Maren, Mia, Phil

Good care for people in care centers: Dick Coleman, Dean Houdek, Julie Stapf

Support for Caregivers: Barbara Anderson, Marlene Axtmann, Bud Flesland, Jennifer Mlodzik, Catherine Powers, Nancy Waller

Unsheltered people. All Saints is a temporary cold-weather shelter for unhoused people.

Circle of Compassion: Many people imprisoned by ICE are resettled refugees who have green cards but are not yet U.S. citizens. Jafari, Jaime, Jeferson, Jessica, Jevier, Jonathan, Jorge, Jose, Juan (2), Julio (3), Kimone, Koffi, Kokouvi, Kujtim, Levi, Luis (4), Lyumbomyr, Maria (2), Martin, Marivn, Michael, Miguel, Mohammed

Military Personnel related to our congregation: Air Force: Zachary Meether. Army: Kristin Glanz-Ohrt, Carson Pederson. Marines: Jesstin Krech, Anthony Pastorius, Brock Pavel. Navy: Emma Waller.

Healing of mind body and spirit for all who suffer from physical and mental injuries related to their times of military service.

Zion Lutheran Church is in a year of transition and discernment. Support their Pastor Steve Biedermann and Council.

Closing Prayer. Almighty God who created the world, help us to know that no matter what we face, You can help us get through it. Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

When you have prayer requests use the Prayer Request form on the church's website allsaintscg.org/care-ceremonies or leave a message with Prayer Chain coordinator Joan Axdal at 651-270-5111.