



**OUR REDEEMER**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GRAND PRAIRIE

*You are welcome here!*  
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing  
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

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**Worship Times**

Sunday 10:15 am  
Wednesday 7:00 pm



**Pastor**

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



*February 14, 2021*  
*Transfiguration*  
*of Our Lord*

# Gathering

## ✠INTRODUCTION

*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.*

## ✠CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

C **Holy God, you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy. Amen.**

P How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

C Amen.

✠ **HYMN OF REFLECTION – Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies**  
(ELW #553)

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true and only light,  
Sun of righteousness, arise,  
triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near;  
Daystar, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn  
unaccompanied by thee;  
joyless is the day's return,  
till thy mercy's beams I see,  
till they inward light impart,  
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine,  
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
fill me, radiancy divine,  
scatter all my unbelief;  
more and more thyself display,  
shining to the perfect day.

✠ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

A Let us pray. 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.

**C Amen.**

# Word

## ✠ **FIRST LESSON – 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

*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.*

<sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In 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. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## ✠ **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.*

P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the ninth chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup>Six 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, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then 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." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As 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.

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## ✠SERMON

### ✠HYMN OF THE DAY – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW #815)

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.

#### *Refrain*

- In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.
- 2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*
  - 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

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## ✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P On this last Sunday after Epiphany, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world,  
and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

- P O God of light, we pray for communities of faith around the globe, for our own  
congregation, for our pastor, and for all Christians who cannot gather for communal  
worship. Show us your face in the darkness, and speak your word of power to all the  
faithful. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P O Morning Star, we pray for the earth, for life forming in the dark earth and ocean depths, for creatures seen and unseen, and especially for the animals who require cold and ice. Give us your Spirit's guidance in our stewardship of the planet. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P O Sun of righteousness, we pray for our nation's elected leaders, for attorneys and juries, and for all who work for justice in our land. Give to them all integrity in service and courage to choose what is right. We pray for our citizenry, that prejudice cease, that resentment about the election wane, and that violence be averted. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P Beautiful Savior, we pray for all who suffer from Covid-19, for medical workers, and for all who await the vaccine. We pray for those enduring famine, for those experiencing homelessness, for the people of Yemen, and for all who live in war zones. We pray for all who are ill, for all who receive no medical care, and especially for those we name before you now, silently or aloud: . . . Heal them with your loving might. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P Love divine, we pray for those who especially on this Valentine's Day feel lonely, for those who are abandoned, and for those who must live apart from their dear ones, especially for the children separated from their parents at our nation's border. Embrace all who are alone with your care. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P Shine, Jesus, shine, also on me, and receive the petitions of my heart. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P We remember before you all who have died in the faith, especially the missionaries Cyril and Methodius and the reformer Martin Luther, and for those we name here before you. . . . Be with us in our every darkness, until at our end we join with the saints in your everlasting light. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P O holy Trinity, Light-Creator, Light of Light begotten, and Light-Revealer, receive our praise and hear our prayers, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## ✠ PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## ✠ LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

## ✠ BLESSING

P God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter † keep you in peace.

C **Amen.**

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ✠ SENDING HYMN – Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises (ELW #535)

*Refrain*

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Hallelujah! We sing your praises,  
all our hearts are filled with gladness. *Repeat*

1 Christ the Lord to us said:  
I am wine, I am bread,  
I am wine, I am bread,  
give to all who thirst and hunger.

*Refrain*

2 Now he sends us all out,  
strong in faith, free of doubt,  
strong in faith, free of doubt.  
Tell to all the joyful gospel.

*Refrain*

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## ✠ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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