Transfiguration of Our Lord March 2, 2025



Ascension Lutheran Church 1105 N. Washington Blvd. Ogden, UT 84404 801.782.2810

#### Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community**, **communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Children are always welcome in worship services; however please know the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

#### Introduction

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses.

It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

# Welcome to Worship

**Opening Song** 





## Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

#### All And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand in body or spirit.

 P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

- All Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

All we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.
P Rejoice in this good news:

- Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

#### All Amen.



- *P* Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
- All Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Reading from Exodus, the 34<sup>th</sup> chapter

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

<sup>29</sup> Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup> When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, <sup>34</sup> but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, <sup>35</sup> the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Exodus 34:29-35

WA The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

## A Reading from 2 Corinthians, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

<sup>12</sup> Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with complete frankness, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, the same veil is still there; it is not unveiled since in Christ it is set aside. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds, <sup>16</sup> but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

<sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> We 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.

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

WA The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!



*P* The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

#### All Glory to you, O Lord.

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what he was saying. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

<sup>37</sup> On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. <sup>38</sup> Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. <sup>39</sup> Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. <sup>40</sup> I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." <sup>41</sup> Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here." <sup>42</sup> While he was being brought forward, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. <sup>43a</sup> And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

Luke 9:28-43a

*P* The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be Seated

# Children's Sermon & Noisy Offering

Each week our congregation is **led by children** to collect pocket change and small bills. Through this offering, we are reminded that together, the smallest of offerings can change lives and make "hope" tangible.

Message

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.



Apostles' Creed

*P* Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the 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.

You may be Seated

# Prayers of the People

WA With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

 All Ooooh, Oooooh, We Lift Up Our Prayers. (Repeat throughout)
 Leader For the planet, for its people.

For the church and it's many shapes of steeples.
For the hungry, for the cold.
For the young and for the old.
For our joy and for our pain.
For the sunshine for the rain.
For the dying, for the sick.
For our loved ones and the glue that makes us stick.
For our leaders for their minds.
For your wisdom as to how we draw our lines.
For the world and its frantic pace.
For the places where we find deeper space.
For all yearning hearts beneath the sun.
For the chance for a prayer for everyone.
For our words and for our silence. (Pause)
Ooooh, Oooooh, Ahhhmen.

# Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by "speaking" that Peace through sign language.

- *P* Jesus Christ become Peace with you.
- All And also with you.

You may be Seated



While we still will not physically pass the offering plates we will continue to have the plates available at the entrance to receive your offerings and will lift them up in thanksgiving before the throne of grace.



- P God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
- All Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
   Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

- *P* The Lord be with you
- All And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- All We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed

our Lord Jesus 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.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Ρ

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Let us together approach the throne of grace as we pray as Jesus taught us:

All 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.

### The Invitation

*P* The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of abundance.

# Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available -ask the communion attendant







Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- All Amen
- P Let us pray,

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.

All Strengthen us for service,

and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

# Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

All Amen





Dismissal

- WA Go in peace. Live in hope
- All Thanks be to God.

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Readings for next Sunday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>
Lent 1

First Reading:

Psalm:

Second Reading: Gospel: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

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