





Serving the Portland Area with the Means of Grace and as a family of believers for over 110 years... as a church, school, preschool, mission, and ministry.

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TRANSFIGURATION

February 11th, 2024

Grace ~ “I am not ashamed of the gospel...”



When it comes to the truth of Scripture, there is no room for compromise. The Bible is the book we live by... for life now and for life forever. We accept the Bible as the pure Word of God. We believe that our only Savior is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, who was crucified, died, and was buried but rose again to open the door to heaven for everyone who believes in him.

Grace ~ “These are written that you may believe...”



Grace Lutheran Church has served the Portland area for over 100 years by faithfully preaching and teaching the timeless truth of God’s Word. We believe that God uses the timeless message of Word and Sacraments to bring souls into his care. This is a message that we share here and around the world through our affiliation with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

Grace ~ “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...”



Grace Lutheran Church exists to win souls by joyfully proclaiming the truth of God’s grace through Christ, to nurture believers in growing in faith and lives of Christian service, and to join together in worship and praise. **“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen.” 2 Pt. 3:18**

1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -
 (2 Oh, how) good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -
 (3 Oh, how) good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -

geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the
 joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the
 fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we

bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the
 weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we
 live as one we all share in the love of the

fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.
 of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing. So
 Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.

Refrain

with one voice we'll sing to the Lord, and

with one heart we'll live out his

word, till the whole earth sees the Re-deem-er has

come, for he dwells in the pres-ence of his peo-

ple. 2 Oh, how 3 Oh, how ple.

Transfiguration of our Lord

The season of Epiphany that shows Jesus' glory to those he has called is coming to a close. But before we enter the season of Lent, Jesus gives us a glimpse of heavenly glory.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION

M: We have come together to celebrate the glory of Christ on the day of his Transfiguration. But who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? You were sent to heal the contrite heart.

C: **My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise. (Psalm 51:17)**

M: You came to call sinners.

C: **The healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. Jesus did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” (Luke 5:32)**

M: You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us.

C: **So for this reason he is able to save forever those who come to God through him, because he always lives to plead on their behalf. (Hebrews 7:25)**

M: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

C: **O Lord, we confess our sins to you. For the sake of your Son, forgive us and renew us.**

ABSOLUTION

M: The Lord has put away your sins. You will not die but live. Above all, fear the LORD, and serve him in truth, with all your heart, proclaim the great things he has done for you! (2 Samuel 12:13, 1 Samuel 12:24)

HYMN OF PRAISE

CW21 Blue #389 (1-2) “How Good, Lord, to Be Here”

*How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night;
Your face and garments, like the sun, Shine with unborrowed light.*

*How good, Lord, to be here Your beauty to behold,
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Your messengers of old.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray. Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 2:1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Bethel.”

But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.³ The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?” Then he said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

⁴ Then Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here because the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.⁵ Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?” He said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here because the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.⁷ Then fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood and watched them from a distance, while the two of them were standing at the Jordan. ⁸ Elijah took his cloak, folded it together, and struck the water. The water divided to the right and to the left. Then the two of them crossed on dry land.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask me for whatever I can do for you before I am taken from you.”

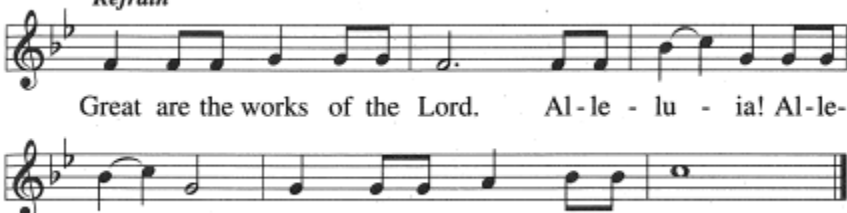
Then Elisha said, “Let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.”

¹⁰ He said, “You have asked for a difficult thing. If you see me being taken from you, it will surely be yours. But if not, then it will not.”

¹¹ While they were walking and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire came and separated them. So Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹² Elisha was watching and crying out, “My father! My father! Israel’s chariot and its charioteers!” Then he did not see him anymore.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Refrain



Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-
lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Why do the nations **con**spire*
and the peoples **plot** in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers
gather together **ag**ainst the LORD*
and against his **An**ointed One.

Refrain

The One enthroned in **he**aven laughs;*
the Lord **sco**ffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, **saying**,*
"I have installed my King on Zion, my **holy** hill."

I will proclaim the decree **of** the LORD:*
He said to me, "You are my Son;
today I have become your **F**ather."

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the **begin**ning,*
is now, and will be forever. **A**men.

Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. ⁴ In the case of those people, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from clearly seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God's image.

⁵ Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," is the same one who made light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the person^[b] of Jesus Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY

1 Corinthians 13:12

C: Alleluia! For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. Alleluia!

M: For centuries, on Transfiguration Sunday, the Christian Church sings it's finally "Alleluias" before we enter the season of Lent and begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. We do this to observe for the quieter days of Lent. But take heart! The Alleluias will return on Easter dawn, as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

THE HYMN RESPONSE

"Alleluia, Song of Triumph"

The hymn will be sung to the tune FORTUNATUS NEW - CW 122

*Alleluia, song of triumph, sound of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;
Saints adorned in robes of glory join the great angelic cry.*

*Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord,
With Christ's holy Church united, justified, redeemed, restored,
And with all his faithful people raise our songs to praise the Lord.*

*Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;
Alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forego.
For the solemn time is coming when our tears for sin must flow.*

*May our hymns be filled with longing — hear us, Holy Trinity —
As we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally,
When we shall once more be singing Alleluia joyfully!*

GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” (He did not know what he was saying.) ³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lift Your Eyes and See the Glory”

Tune: HYFRYDOL - CW Red #486

*Lift your eyes and see the glory, Christ adored in majesty,
Shining bright upon the mountain, to the world, a mystery.
With the ancient prophets standing, Christ appears in garments white,
Covered by a cloud of glory, clothed in everlasting light!*

*Like a star, his face was shining, he who was the Light of all.
And his faithful friends beheld it, filled with wonder and with awe.
From the sky, a voice was speaking: “This is my beloved Son.”
Words fulfilling all the prophets, coming from the heart of God.*

*This our shouted acclamation: Christ the Son is King of kings.
He is holy, he is worthy, He is Lord of everything.
Glory, blessings, laud and honor be to Christ, the Lord of grace!
Fill your heart with alleluias. Christ is worthy of all praise.*

SERMON

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

An opportunity to give online can also be used at [Paypal.me/GracePortland](https://www.paypal.com/GracePortland) or by utilizing this QR code:



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord who has called us to be his own that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, with we praise your holy name:

HYMN

CW21 Blue #390 (1) “Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

*Jesus, take us to the mountain
Where, with Peter, James, and John,
We are dazzled by your glory,
Light as blinding as the sun.
There prepare us for the night
By the vision of that sight.*

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- M:** Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil’s power.
- C:** **By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.**
- M:** Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ’s body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #390 (2) “Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

*What do you want us to see there
That your close companions saw?
Your divinity revealed there
Fills us with the selfsame awe.
Clothed in flesh like ours you go,
Matched to meet our deadliest foe.*

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread: and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”
- M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #390 (3) “Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

*What do you want us to hear there
That your dear disciples heard?
Once again the voice from heaven
Says of the incarnate Word:
“Listen, listen, ev’ryone;
This is my beloved Son!”*

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the Lord's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in this congregation or in a sister congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy. If you would like to discuss "close" communion or any other spiritual matter with the pastor, please indicate this on the Friendship Register.

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*“Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love” CW21 Blue #577 – Imported music
“Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery” CW21 Blue #535 – Imported music*

THE BLESSING & BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

CW21 Blue #930 (1-2) “Go, My Children, With My Blessing”

*Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing -You are my own.*

*Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.*