





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 19th, 2023

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**

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.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #630 (1-2) "Thy Strong Word"

*Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank thee
While thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!*

*Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of thy salvation,
Breathed thine own life-giving breath.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!*

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 the Lord on the day of his Transfiguration.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

- M:** 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)

OPENING

CW21 Blue #630 (3-4) “Thy Strong Word”

*Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hope confess.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!*

*From the cross thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia without end!*

THE DEVOTION - INTRODUCTION

Exodus 24, 2 Kings 2, Luke 9

HYMN

CW21 Blue #630 (5-6) "Thy Strong Word"

*Give us lips to sing thy glory,
Tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats to shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia! May the light which thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!*

*God the Father, light-creator,
To thee laud and honor be.
To thee, Light from Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!*

THE DEVOTION - MOSES

Exodus 24:12-18

¹² The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain. Wait there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commands that I have written, so that you can teach them."

¹³ Moses set out with his assistant Joshua and went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴ He said to the elders, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, here are Aaron and Hur. They will be with you. Whoever is involved in a dispute can go to them."

¹⁵ Moses went up onto the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The Glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered the mountain for six days. On the seventh day the LORD called to Moses out of the middle of the cloud. ¹⁷ The appearance of the Glory of the LORD looked like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸ Moses entered into the middle of the cloud and climbed up the mountain. Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

HYMN

CW21 Blue #389 "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.*

***Fulfiller of the past, Promise of things to be,
We hail your body glorified And our redemption see.***

***Before we taste of death, We see your kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.***

***But you, Lord, do not stay. With mercy resolute.
You leave this glorious hill to die - our perfect substitute.***

***How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;
But since you bid us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.***

THE DEVOTION - ELIJAH

2 Kings 2:1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel.”

But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

³ The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” Elisha replied, “so be quiet.”

⁴ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho.”

And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

⁵ The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?”

“Yes, I know,” he replied, “so be quiet.”

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.”

And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on.

⁷ Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸ Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?”

“Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied.

¹⁰ “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not.”

¹¹ As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹² Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

HYMN

“Lift Your Eyes and See the Glory”

Tune: HYFRYDOL - CW #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.*

THE DEVOTION – THIS IS MY SON

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.

OFFERING

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND THE 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.

BENEDICTION

FARWELL TO ALLELUIA

“Alleluia, Song of Triumph”

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

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.

*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!*