

March 2, 2014

Transfiguration of our Lord



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will grow spiritually and in numbers as we serve Christ. We will reach out and address the hurts and hopes in our community. We will maintain a church home that is reverently joyous and extend a welcome to all who seek to join us in our mission.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

Sunday, March 2, 2014
Transfiguration of our Lord

INTRODUCTION

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On the mount of transfiguration Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem.

We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

“This is My Father’s World”

#824 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us come into the light of Christ,
confessing our need for God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy and faithful God,

we so often choose our own way instead of yours.

We think we can evade your commandments.

We have spoken in ways that kill, strayed with our hearts,

betrayed friends, and hated enemies. We have broken our promises.

**Search us deeply and create us anew. Lift the heavy burden of our sin
and free us to follow your way of life.**

Amen.

"Call upon me," says the Lord, "and I will answer."

Our God has come among us to loose every bond
and set us free from all that weighs us down.

Receive the forgiveness of all your sins

in the name of + Jesus Christ,

our crucified and risen Savior.

Amen.

GREETING

Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God:
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, on the mountain you showed your glory in the transfiguration of your Son. Give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold the king in all his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

FIRST READING:

2 Peter 1:16-21

At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

PSALM

Psalm 2

Refrain: You are my son; this day have I begotten you. (Ps. 2:7)

Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
and the princes plot together,
against the LORD and against the LORD's anointed?**

"Let us break their yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their bonds from us."

**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the LORD holds them in derision. R**

Then in wrath God speaks to them,
and in rage fills them with terror.

**"As for me, I have anointed my king
upon Zion, my holy mountain."**

Let me announce the decree of the LORD,

who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession. R**

You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

**And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

Submit to the LORD with fear,
and with trembling bow in worship;

lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.

Happy are all who take refuge in God! R

GOSPEL:

Matthew 17:1-9

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to his disciples in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them

hear our prayer.

You provide us with mercy and love through your beloved Son. Shine the light of his love to heal the sick, feed the hungry, and comfort the grieving. Be with all who suffer (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You raise up your children and counsel us not to be afraid. Help this community of faith to be fearless in proclaiming the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy Spirit, keep us in your care until you gather us with (*John and Charles Wesley and*) all the saints from every time and place in the company of our sovereign God. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Radiant God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who has made his dwelling among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

APOSTLE'S 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 into hell. 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda March 3 thru March 8, 2014

Monday 03/03 7:00 pm AA & Alanon

Tuesday 03/04 8-11am Pastor's Tech Study

Wednesday 03/05 8:30 am Bible Study
9:30 am Hardanger
11:00 am Bible Study
6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service with Communion

Thursday 03/06 8:00 pm R.O.M.E.O.S
10:30 am Worship and Music
1:00 pm Fun Timers

Friday 03/07 10:00 am Bone Builders

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LECTOR COORDINATOR Has Been Found! Thank you to Joan Petersen for volunteering to find lectors for second service. We appreciate you!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS MARCH 9! Remember to turn your clocks **Forward!**

CHECK BOARD IN OFFICE-Lots of people need your prayers.

QUILTER'S REQUEST-Our quilters are asking for donations of thin blankets or used mattress pads in good condition to sew between the fabrics for filling.

SNOW SHOVELING HELP REQUESTED We all are struggling with shoveling our snow. Some older folks in our congregation are in need of some extra help. Call the office or talk with Pastor to find out what is needed. Your willingness to help would be great gift.

ASH WEDNESDAY We start at 6:30 pm with a communion service. Then March 12 we start LENT with a 5:30 pm Pot Luck supper and our service at 6:30 pm. There is a signup sheet in the entry to help with setup and clean up for our pot luck dinners before services. Everyone is welcome, everyone's help is welcomed.