

Sunday, February 7, 2016

Transfiguration of Our Lord / Last Sunday after Epiphany



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Church Secretary: Mary Kramer & Mary Braun

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH

we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS

we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

(Please turn off your cell phone)

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INTRODUCTION:

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting 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 the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being “transformed into the same image” by the Spirit of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OPENING HYMN: “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine” #774 ELW

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God’s presence, let us c our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty and loving God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love.

Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.” In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. 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.

FIRST READING:

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

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.

¹²Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not 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. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And 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.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; 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.

Psalm: Psalm 99

R: Proclaim the greatness of the LORD; worship upon God's holy hill. (Ps. 99:9)

¹The LORD is king; let the people tremble. The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

²The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

³Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. R

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

⁶Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them,

⁷you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree

Rejoicing with all the faithful, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of glory, guide and empower your church's leaders to trust your promises as Moses and Elijah did. Shine the light of Christ through your church to the world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of majesty, from the highest mountain to the lowest valley, your power is seen in your creation. Help us to protect and care for soil, air, water, and all the creatures you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of hope and freedom, give just laws; fair leaders; sufficient food, water, and shelter; and abundant peace to all nations in poverty, strife, or at war (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of wholeness, bring clarity to those in confusing times, healing to those in painful times, and peace to those in trying times. We pray especially for Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

hear our prayer.

God of new life, show us your will for the ministries in this place (*especially*), and transform us for mission and witness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of glory, we give thanks for all the beloved who rest in your loving arms. Keep us from losing heart and strengthen our faith in your promise of everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all of your beloved for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN: “This Is My Father’s World” #824 ELW

Great to have you join us for worship! Please come again.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Greeters: Darrell Kelly, Diane Sandberg
 Ushers: Harold & Ardie Kendall
 Hospitality Hosts: Steve & Melody Lackner, Winnie Zahradka
 Communion Servers: Del & Dianne Jones, Judy Wozney

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week/Month

Attendance: Sunday, January 31st : 88

JANUARY 2016

General \$13,253
 Building \$5,165

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

February 8th - February 14th 2016

Monday	2/08	1:00 am 7:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/09	8:00 am	Pastor's Text Study
Wednesday	2/10	8:30 am 9:30 am 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Study Hardanger Praise Team Confirmation
Thursday	2/11	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 12:30 pm	ROMEOS Take down Christmas Decorations – Altar Care Worship & Music Meeting Fun Timers
Friday	2/12	9:00 am 10:00 am	Stewardship Meeting Bone Builders
Sunday	2/14	9:00am	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY Please sign and pass the attendance registry folders which you will find in the pew.

OFFERING ENVELOPES Please pick up your 2016 offering envelopes located in the Fellowship Hall after service. Directories are still available too.

DONATION STATEMENTS Your 2015 tax contribution statements are also available to pick up at the fellowship hall.

WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE Only One Worship Service on Sundays in January, February & March 2016 at 9:00am.

NEXT YEAR'S BAZAAR will feature a Christmas tree full of used tree ornaments. If you have any to donate, please drop them off in the Craft Room.

4H FRUIT SALES The East Side Eagles 4H Club meets at Bethesda Lutheran Church. If you are interested in supporting our club through the annual 4H fundraiser of fruit sales, please contact Mary, Emilie or Will Vukelich by phone or email. (Some order forms are on the table near the entrance to church too.) All orders must be placed by Sunday, February 21 (with payment made to our club) and delivery will be made on Friday, March 11 in the afternoon and evening hours. The Vukelich family can be reached by email at mmvuke@yahoo.com or by phone at 651-230-4512. Thanks in advance for your support; it helps offset our costs to 4H summer camp, the State Dog Show and other similar expenses.

SCHOOL KITS FOR CHILDREN *WELCA* is collecting school kits for children in the refugee camps. These kids have little or no papers, pens or other supplies to take to school. Their parents are often too poor to buy these supplies for their children. We have made backpacks and we are asking for help in filling them with school supplies. They are located in a tub in the Fellowship hall. **PLEASE** take a backpack home and fill it from the list of supplies that is included with the backpack. If you can't fill a bag, money for supplies would also be good. The filled backpacks will be taken to the Synod meeting in June.



MEMORY GARDEN BRICKS If you would like to purchase a brick to honor a loved one, you can pick up an order form in the Secretary's office.