

Sunday, February 26, 2017

Transfiguration of Our Lord



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Pastor Terry Frovik

(Cell) 507-213-9961 (Home) 218-963-6140

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-684-2846

Patti Honnold, RN CNP 320-676-8421

Kathy Berland RN ANP 320-495-3988

Prayer Chain Contacts Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Judy Forester 218-678-2667

Church Secretary: Mary Braun & Jenny Schuett

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

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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

OPENING HYMN: **"How Good Lord to be Here"** **#315 ELW**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving God,

we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways.

Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children.

Amen.

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of ☐ Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The “glory of the Lord” settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Psalm: Psalm 2

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

¹Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the LORD’s anointed?

³“Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

⁴**God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the LORD holds them in derision.**

⁵Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

⁶**“As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”**

⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD, who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

⁸**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

¹⁰**And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

¹²**lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.**

Happy are all who take refuge in God!

Second 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.

¹⁶For 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. ¹⁷For 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.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So 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. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God

Please rise for the reading of the Gospel

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Glory to you, O Lord

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.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Please be Seated

SERMON

“Talk About Being Loved!”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Beautiful Savior”

#838 ELW

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God’s justice, peace, and healing.

A brief silence.

God of Moses, you revealed your glory on Mount Sinai. Reveal your glory through missionaries and campus ministries. Shine your light through their acts of caring, justice, and mercy. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of Eve, you create humankind in your image. Cultivate in us a passion for your good creation. Transform our daily routines so that our stewardship reveals your image. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of David, you equip shepherds to care for your people. Where leaders rule by fear, transform their hearts with compassion and mercy. Send advocates for peace. We pray for your justice in every land (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of Naomi, you care for the widow. Be with all who mourn. Connect children in foster care with loving families. Protect refugees. Heal the sick and strengthen caretakers (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of Zechariah, you invite us to worship. Teach us to sing your praise in all places and in all circumstances. Embolden us to proclaim the joy of your faithfulness with our whole being. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of grace and glory – Nearly 100 years ago you gathered and established Bethesda Lutheran Church, Malmo, MN. Over these years your people have faithfully proclaimed the Gospel of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. We have feasted at your Table and washed our children in the waters of baptism. You have favored us with shepherds to lead the way and trust your Spirit. We pray this day that your Holy Spirit will prompt all of us to once again make our future bright in the successful funding of a new parsonage for a new pastor and a new beginning to our ministry in Malmo and throughout the world. Help us we pray to give until it feels good to the Capital Funds Appeal for our new parsonage. We give thanks for Val Benton and our church council as they manage this appeal and give thanks to You for your abiding care of this one little flock in your amazing kingdom! In Jesus name.

Amen.

God of Lazarus, you resurrect the dead. Deepen our trust in the resurrection promise. Grant us peace as we grapple with what it means to die and live in you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Ushers will begin passing the offering plate. Please rise as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

LORDS PRAYER

BLESSING

The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the ✙ Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

#789 ELW

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Digital Hymnal: Winnie Zahradka

Greeters: Wally & Bev Swenson

Ushers: Wayne & Janice Olson

Lector: Steve Lackner

Hospitality Hosts: Cheri Johnson, Marilyn Andrews, Audrey Bistodeau

Thank you for your service!

Response to God's Word Last Week

Attendance: Sunday, February 19, 2017: 9:00am 69

THIS WEEK AT Bethesda

February 27 thru March 5, 2017

Monday	2/27	1:00 pm	Double Deck Pinochle
		7:00 pm	AA/Alanon
Tuesday	2/28	10:00-12:00	Pastor Text Study
Wednesday	3/1	ASH WEDNESDAY	
		8:30 am	Bible Study
		9:30 am	Stitchers
		5:30 pm	Potluck
		6:30 pm	Worship
Thursday	3/2	8:00am	ROMEOS
		12:30 pm	Fun Timers
Friday	3/3	10:00 am	Bone Builders
Saturday	3/4	1:00-4:00pm	Foot Clinic
Sunday	3/5	9:00 am	Worship



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED Signup sheets are to the left of the serving window by the kitchen. Please check it out and take your turn. There will always be someone to assist you with making the coffee and running the dishwasher.

FOOT CLINIC our next Foot Clinic will be on Saturday, March 4th from 1:00-4:00pm. Call the church office at 320 684-2123 (between 11-3, Monday-Friday) to schedule your appointment. Walk ins welcome after 2:30pm.

PRAYER AND CARE CONCERNS

- Safe travel for all and protection from the cold.

CALL COMMITTEE FOR NEW PASTOR On the table in the Narthex you will find double sided forms that describe the formation of a Call Committee that will lead the search for our next Pastor. The form includes an overview of the role and its responsibilities as well as an application to be completed if you are interested in being a member of this Committee. This is an extremely important process and we are hopeful there will be a broad and diverse group of people who will be interested in serving on this Committee. We believe the outcome of the Call process will be best if the Call Committee represents the whole of our congregation. So we're hoping the final committee is comprised of men and woman, old and young, new and longtime members, etc. Please prayerfully consider applying for this important Committee and helping your church identify our next Pastor. The church will be receiving applications over the next couple of months, but if you feel called to apply, there is no better time than now to do so. Deadline for applications will be established in April.

VETS & FRIENDS COMMUNITY NETWORK RETREAT Theme: Post-traumatic Growth. WHEN: Wednesday evening, March 8 – Sunday noon, March 12, 2017. WHERE: Luther Point Camp, Grantsburg, Wisconsin. WHO: Veterans, Family, Friends, Community Team Leaders. No cost for veterans, family members, friends and past retreat participants. Cost for first time Community Leader Team Attendees: Individual - \$250; Team of 2 - \$400; Each additional team member-\$150 (Stipends available). For more information on stipends or the retreat contact Retreat Hospitality Coordinator, Cindy Macaulay at riskhc@gmail.com. See more information on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

WORSHIP and MUSIC Committee will meet on Thursday, March 9th at 10:30am.

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Lent & Easter 2017

Focus: 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, October 31, 2017

Sundays - Luther's Small Catechism

March 5	Ten Commandments
13	The Apostle's Creed
19	The Lord's Prayer (praise choir original)
26	Holy Baptism
April 2	Holy Communion

MidWeek - 5:30 Potluck discussion 6:30 Worship (Holden Evening Prayer)

March 1	Ash Wednesday (Imposition of Ashes)
8	Law & Grace
15	The Church's Public Witness
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Holy Week

April 9	Sunday of Passion "Cry of the Whole Congregation" by Walter Wangerin
April 13	6:30 pm Maundy Thursday
April 14	Good Friday (Tenebrae and the Cross)
16	Easter 8 & 10 am 9 am Easter Breakfast

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