



February 19, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Transfiguration of Our Lord, Year A

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA

Reverend Maggie Westaby

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Sunday, February 19th 2023
Transfiguration of Our Lord, Year A
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WELCOME

Blessed be the Holy Trinity † one God, who makes all things new,
and whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Glorious God,

You are a lamp to our feet, yet we fail to follow your guidance and we fail to listen to you. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us. That we may walk in your ways and be happy in your refuge. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Hear the good news. In the name of Jesus † Christ your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of majesty and might,

You have blessed us with the revelation of your glory. In the transfiguration of your Son, you were there. Your voice emerged from the bright cloud declaring Jesus as your beloved. Give us the gift of faith, that we too may hear your voice and see Christ revealed to us. Guide us, inspire us, and love us. So that we can live out faithful lives, until that great day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass,
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
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READING: Exodus 24:12-18

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 99 (*Meditation Translation*)

Awaken! Trust your hearts to God; let all the earth give thanks!

Even God’s unseen Presence is great throughout the cosmos. Let all be silent and guided only by God’s Voice!

May all breathe God’s awesome name, Yahweh. May God’s Word be heard in all the land.

May all of creation one day live in peace, with God’s justice, love, and righteousness governing all nations.

Many who have gone before, have followed the ways of God.

Moses, Aaron, and Samuel are among those who followed and surrendered to God.

When God spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud, they walked with confidence, and they were guided through difficult times.

God answered their prayers, forgave their wrongdoings, and invited them into newness of life.

Proclaim the greatness of God, and aspire to ascend the sacred mountain. For God is Holy and the Giver of Life.

Amen.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robbed in the flow'rs of spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown,
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing,
 than all the an - gels in the sky,
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

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 to the dead. 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 together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Responding to "God of grace," with "hear our prayer."

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

God of mountaintops and valleys,

We give thanks for these faithful gifts. Bless these offerings, and may they be transfigured into your presence in the world. Allowing our mission to brilliantly shine forth in ways that invite life and love.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

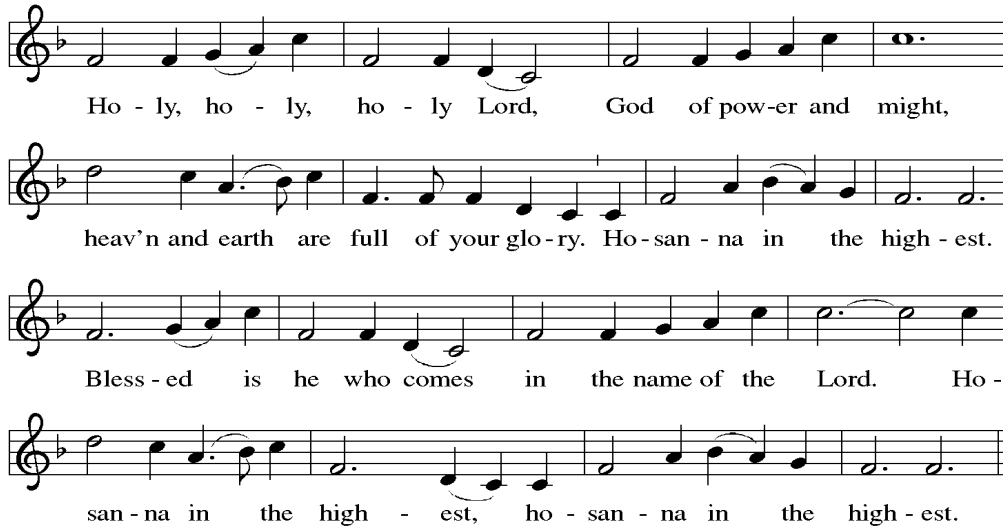
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Break now the bread | of Christ's sac - ri - fice; | giv - ing |
| 2 | Seek not the food | that will pass a - way; | set your |
| 3 | Love as the one | who, in love for you, | gave him - |
| 4 | Dwell in the one | who now dwells in you; | make your |
| 5 | Drink of this cup | and de - clare his death; | eat this |

thanks, hun - gry ones,	gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be
hearts on the food	that en - dures.	Come, learn the true and the
self for the life	of the world.	Come to the one who is
home in the life - giv - ing	Word.	Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
bread and be - lieve	Eas - ter morn;	trust his re - turn and, with

Refrain

sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres - ence	the loaves will a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that the full - ness of life	may be yours.
food for you,	that your hun - ger and thirst	be no more.
One of God,	and be - lieve in the truth	you have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one in whom you	are re - born.

Text: Susan R. Biehl, b. 1952
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas
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Son of God, Eternal Savior

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

Musik: IN BABILONE. *Orde en Nieuwe Hollandsche Boerenliedjes en Contradanssen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855-1932

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One,

We thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May the Creator of the mountains bring you courage,

May the light of Christ shine hope into your heart,

May the blowing of the Spirit bring you joyful adventure,

And may the Three in One ✝ infuse brilliance into each day,

Transfiguring your mind, body, and spirit. Amen

SENDING SONG

Blessed Assurance

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love,
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Musik: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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Welcome to all! Welcome to worship as we celebrate the Transfiguration and catch a glimpse of Jesus' divine glory.

God, you said to your disciples, "This is my Son, the Beloved; ... listen to him!" (Matthew 17:5, NRSV). Help us always listen to Jesus too.

Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex. May God bless you today and all days.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John's at (715) 675-6950

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us.

Food Basket. Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Food Basket* next to the main entrance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship help needed! There are a lot of open Sundays. If you are able, please sign up. Thank you!

St. John's Newsletter. February's Newsletter will be the last Newsletter mailed out, starting in March you can pick up a physical copy of the Newsletter in the Narthex or you can look access it digitally online.

February 20, 2023 Pastor Maggie's Book Club at 6:30 p.m. This month, we will be discussing *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans.

February 26, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Cemetery Association Meeting.

LENTEN DINNERS Exciting news!! We have cooks for every one of our Lenten Dinners! Thanks so much to the volunteers who are willing to cook and serve a great meal. We are still in need of people to bring salads, desserts and milk. Also need folks to help with clean up. It's a pretty simple job, since we use paper products. The dinners will be served from 5-6 pm. with worship service at 6:30. Our meals were put on hold during covid and we're so excited to bring them back! Please join us for food and fellowship during this season of Lent. The sign-up chart is in the narthex with the dates of the meals, beginning on Ash Wednesday.

New Pictorial Directory. Say cheese! We are excited to announce a new church directory will be coming soon and hope to see all your beautiful smiling faces in the directory! There are 3 days you can schedule a session to have pictures taken. The dates are April 10th, 11th, and 12th from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the church parish hall. You are welcome to bring pet/s to be photographed with you. We hope all will schedule a no sales pressure session. Photo examples and a pricing brochure are in the narthex. You can schedule your picture taking session, using the QR code located on the sign in the narthex, or through the link on the home page of our church website www.stjohnwausau.org For those who do not have electronic means to schedule a session or for anyone who may have questions please contact Jan Mueller. For those who are unable to have pictures taken at the dates and times listed above, you may submit a photo for the directory. There is a \$15 charge to submit your photo, please contact Jan Mueller for more information. Smile!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize

congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Coming This Week @ St. John February 19 – February 26

Today

9:00 a.m. Worship

February 20

Church office closed in observation of President's Day

Noon Newsletter Articles due

6:30 p.m. Pr. Maggie's Book Club

February 21

8:30 a.m. Quilting

9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting

February 22

5:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

February 26

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School