



Becoming Like Christ

Transfiguration
February 19, 2023

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, there are activity bags for children, and the service is streamed live in the Fireside Room down the hall for small children.

Service of Preparation

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Use this time in quiet preparation for the Lord's Supper, perhaps with the help of page 129 in the front portion of the hymnary.

HYMN

Of the Father's Love Begotten | #181, vv. 1-3, 5

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you—of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ—to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the place and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you! Amen.

HYMN

Gloria



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

Service of the Word

The Epiphany season of the church year closes today with the greatest of the revelations of Jesus as the true Son of God. The glory of God that Jesus has he now shares with us as children of God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray that we become like Christ: Almighty and loving God, we thank you for revealing your Son Jesus in glory before he suffered and died. Give us faith to recognize him as your dear Son, and strengthen us to suffer with him, until we come to share his glory. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:9–18

Moses entered the cloud of God's glory at the top of the mountain and received God's commandments. 1,400 years later three disciples also entered the cloud of God's glory at the top of a mountain and were told to listen to Jesus.

Then Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up. ¹⁰They saw the God of Israel. Under his feet they saw what looked like a pavement of sapphire as clear as the sky. ¹¹The Lord did not lay his hand on the dignitaries of the people of Israel. They gazed at God, and they ate and drank.

¹²The 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."

¹³Moses set out with his assistant Joshua and went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴He 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."

¹⁵Moses went up onto the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The 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. ¹⁷The 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. ¹⁸Moses entered into the middle of the cloud and climbed up the mountain. Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Peter 1:16–21

St. Peter claims his presence at the transfiguration is a guarantee of the truth of his preaching and verifies the inspiration of Scripture, which reveals the glory of Jesus to us today.

To be sure, we were not following cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the powerful appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father, when the voice came to him from within the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸We heard this voice, which came out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹We also have the completely reliable prophetic word. You do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the Morning Star rises

in your hearts, ²⁰ since we know this above all else: No prophecy of Scripture comes about from someone's own interpretation. ²¹ In fact, no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were being carried along by the Holy Spirit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

With Trembling Awe the Chosen Three | #225

SERMON

Matthew 17:1-9

On Mt. Sinai, the people cowered in fear at the glory of God, which looked like a consuming fire. But on the Mount of Transfiguration, that same glory looked like a man—a man who touched his disciples and gave them the message of grace, "Don't be afraid!"

Six days later Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John the brother of James; and he led them up onto a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured in front of them. His face was shining like the sun. His clothing became as white as the light. ³ Just then, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, I will make three shelters here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. Just then, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him."

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell face down and were terrified. ⁷ Jesus approached and as he touched them, he said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." ⁸ When they opened their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus alone. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Do not tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

HYMN

Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and

is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

The teaching and evangelism work of King of Grace is supported entirely by donation. You can support this work by giving a gift in the offering plate or at www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Service of the Sacrament

The members of King of Grace invite members of other ELS or WELS congregations to commune with us. We ask everyone else to please visit with our pastors before our next communion service.

P: Let us pray: It is truly, good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. We praise you that you sent us your only-begotten Son and revealed your full glory in him. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and worship your glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

HYMN

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
 Sab - a - oth; Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.
 Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he,
 bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

CONSECRATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND RECEPTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Agnus Dei

O Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Beautiful Savior | #54

THANKSGIVING HYMN

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace
ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a Light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry
of your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank you that on the basis of his work you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We ask you not to abandon your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit, so that we may be empowered constantly to serve you. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

Preacher.....Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad | **Liturgist**..... Vicar Max Kerr
Organist (Sunday).....Karen Merseth | **Pianist**.....Noah Edwards



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