

# A Service of Morning Prayer

## March 2, 2025

### Transfiguration Sunday



***The Transfiguration of Jesus***

Painting by Berndt Godenhjelm (1799-1881)

Altarpiece painted in 1839 as a commission from Arvid Adolf Etholén, the eighth Russian governor of Alaska, for the Sitka Lutheran Church in Sitka Alaska. The painting is on display in the current church.

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him. *Matthew 17:5*

### CP 170 The Glory of These Forty Days

1 The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, by whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.

2 Alone and fasting Moses saw  
the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting, came  
the steeds and chariots of flame.

3 So Daniel trained his mystic sight,  
delivered from the lions' might;  
and John, the bridegroom's friend, became  
the herald of Messiah's name.

4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be  
full oft in fast and prayer with thee;  
our spirits strengthen with thy grace,  
and give us joy to see thy face.

5 O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in threefold name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

May his grace and peace be with you.  
**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**To you all hearts are open,  
 All desires known,  
 And from you no secrets are hidden.  
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
 That we may perfectly love you,  
 And worthily magnify your holy name;  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Psalm 99

*Refrain: The Lord our God is the Holy One.*

99:1 The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

99:2 The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

99:3 Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

99:4 Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

99:5 Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

99:6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.

99:7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees and the statutes that he gave them.

99:8 O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

99:9 Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain, for the LORD our God is holy.

### A Reading from Exodus 34:29-35

34:29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.

34:30 When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him.

34:31 But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.

34:32 Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

34:33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face,

34:34 but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,

34:35 the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

CP 460 Lord, The Light of Your Love Is Shining

1 Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness shining:  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Chorus**

**Shine, Jesus, shine;  
Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze:  
Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow:  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth Your word,  
Lord, and let there be light.**

2 Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness;  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Chorus...**

3 As we gaze on Your kingly brightness  
So our faces display Your likeness;  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Chorus...**A Reading from 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

3:12 Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with complete frankness,  
3:13 not 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.  
3:14 But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, the same veil is still there; it is not unveiled since in Christ it is set aside.  
3:15 Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds,  
3:16 but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.  
3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.  
3:18 And 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.  
4:2 We have renounced the shameful, underhanded ways; 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.

The Word of the Lord.   **Thanks be to God.**

CP 167 'Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here

1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
Thy glory fills the night;  
thy face and garments, like the  
sun,  
shine with unborrowed light.

2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,  
thy beauty to behold  
where Moses and Elijah stand,  
thy messengers of old.

3 Fulfiller of the past  
promise of things to be,  
we hail thy body glorified,  
and our redemption see!

4 Before we taste of death,  
we see thy kingdom come:  
O might we hold the vision  
bright  
and make this hill our home!

5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!  
Yet we may not remain;  
but, since thou bidst us leave  
the mount,  
come with us to the plain.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Luke

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)

9:28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray.

9:29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.

9:30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.

9:31 They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem.

9:32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.

9:33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what he was saying.

9:34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.

9:35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

9:36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

9:37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him.

9:38 Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child.

9:39 Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him.

9:40 I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not."

9:41 Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

9:42 While he was being brought forward, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

9:43a And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 7047252 Transfiguration

1 From the cloud You speak  
 What was veiled now is seen  
 Jesus the image of the invisible God

2 Divinity confirmed  
 In the transfigured Word  
 A kingdom once concealed  
 On the earth now revealed

**Chorus**

***Holy is the Lord  
 Revealed before my eyes  
 And my burning heart  
 Can scarcely take it in  
 As I behold Your beauty  
 With unworthy eyes  
 The only song my soul can find to sing  
 Is hallelujah  
 Hallelujah  
 Hallelujah my King***

3 Lead my longing heart  
 To the high ground to a clear view  
 And in awe I'll be there  
 Beholding You

**Bridge**

Now I know I have seen  
 Your glory that cannot be unseen  
 I am changed and changing still  
 As I look upon You Lord and believe

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the Virgin Mary.  
 He 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.  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again  
 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 the People compiled and led by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

Holy God, we are all companions on a spiritual journey and so as we travel together, let us pray together saying, Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, we pray for your church throughout the world.

- for the Anglican Church of Burundi
- for the Diocese of Western Newfoundland and her Bishop, the Rt. Rev. John Organ.
- for St. Mary, Ponoka and her Rector, Christa Eisbrenner and Treena Hanger, Secretary.
- for the Buyé Diocese, Kabataha Parish and her Rector, Fabien Miburo.
- for the people and community of the Cold Lake First Nation.
- for the Diocese of Edmonton, her Bishop, Stephen, and all her clergy and staff.
- for our own parish of St. Peter's; for your blessing to be upon this congregation, upon this church and all who so faithfully serve you and this community; our ministry team of Arthur and Alison, our music ministry, Nadine, our readers and intercessors and all who do the vital work behind the scenes.

Bless and guide our ministers and leaders as we enter the Lenten season of penitence and discipline, help us to be alive to your Spirit, who searches all our hearts and renews our lives as we offer our faith and obedience. Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Creator God, we know that we are part of the problems that the world faces, and we know that wherever there is resentment between people there will be tension. We pray for all world leaders, that they will put aside selfish motivations and put the welfare of the whole world first in all their dealings. We pray that those who lead us and the other nations of the world will always try to solve issues in a peaceful way and intervene in the world's conflicts with forethought and common sense. Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray for the families and communities we represent asking that we may have a spirit of generosity, respect and understanding at all times and for all people, and may we always be able to help each other just as you love and help us. Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, we pray for all who bear the burdens of pain, bereavement, worry and depression. We pray for those whose illness stems from anxiety. We pray that they may have an awareness of your presence and an understanding that you are bearing those burdens with them and always working towards their healing and wholeness.

Almighty God, we place into your gentle hands those who are sick, suffering in any way especially .... Sandra..... Merle..... Mary..... Irene ..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Bill..... Florence..... Lisa..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Meghan..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Skariah..... Ruth..... Mike and his family.....Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her family..... Pauline and Richard.....George and Janine..... Michael..... those we hold close in our hearts and those known to you alone.

Ease their pain, and heal the damage done to them in body, mind or spirit. Be with them through the support of their friends, families, doctors and nurses and help them to be aware that they are surrounded with the prayers of the faithful. Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Father God, we thank you for the joy of human love, and for all those among whom we live and work. We pray particularly for loved ones who worry us with their health, or circumstances, or life direction. We pray for those among our friends and families who do not know you, or whose faith has been shaken. Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our Prayer**

Merciful God, we remember with thanksgiving before you those who have died in Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone. Be especially close to those they have left behind as they journey to the New Jerusalem. Through your love and mercy you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Comfort those who grieve in their sorrow and those who are worried about how they will cope on their own and reassure them that you will never leave them to carry the burdens of life unaided. Lord, in your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Faithful God, in the week that lies before us may we reflect your love in the way that we live our lives so that the world can see that we are followers of Christ and by our words and actions draw others into his loving care.

Merciful father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses  
your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured:  
mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world,  
and change us into his likeness from glory to glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,**

**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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## CP 399 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God,  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms  
hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and nourish us with grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God  
eternal now be given,  
to Spirit and to Word,  
who reign in highest heaven:  
our ever faithful God,  
whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

## The Dismissal

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him. *Matthew 17:5*

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness  
working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for  
ever and ever. Amen.

My dear friends, be swift to love, make haste to be kind,  
and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**