



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
Transfiguration Sunday
February 19, 2023

9:30am

YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. PLEASE SIT QUIETLY AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170
734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ’s body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Non-Alcoholic Wine is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of

Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – We consider the Father’s words on the Mount of Transfiguration: “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.” The Father bears witness to the authority of the Son. Remember God’s words to listen to the voice of Jesus.

We also recall the brightness of Jesus shining upon the disciples. Jesus’ transfiguration reminds us of the blessing we hear every week at the end of worship in the Benediction for the Lord’s face to shine upon us. In the person of Jesus, God’s face certainly shines upon us, and we look forward to the day when Christ returns in glory to permanently shine His face upon us.

Call to Worship – Revelation Song

Worthy is the, Lamb who was slain
Holy Holy is He
Sing a new song to Him who sits on
Heaven’s mercy seat

***CHORUS: Holy, Holy, Holy
is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
praise to the King of Kings
You are my everything and I will adore You***

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and
glory and power be
to You the only wise King ***CHORUS***

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of your name
Jesus your name is power, breath and living water
Such a marvelous mystery Yeah... ***CHORUS***

Welcome, Announcements and Greetings

Invocation and Opening Sentences

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.
- P** The Lord is great in Zion. **C** He is exalted over all the peoples.
- P** Let them praise Your great and awesome name! **C** Holy is He!
- P** The Lord's face will shine upon us, **C** and give us peace.

Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble

1. Did you feel the mountains tremble

Did you hear the oceans roar
When the people rose to sing of
Jesus Christ the risen One

Did you feel the people tremble
Did you hear the singers roar

When the lost began to sing of
Jesus Christ the saving One

And we can see that God You're moving

A mighty river through the nations

And young and old will turn to Jesus

Fling wide you heavenly gates

Prepare the way of the risen Lord **CHORUS**

CHORUS: Open up the doors

and let the music play

Let the streets resound with singing

Songs that bring Your hope

Songs that bring Your joy

Dancers who dance upon injustice

2. Do you feel the darkness tremble

When all the saints join in one song

And all the streams flow as one river

To wash away our brokenness

And here we see that God You're moving

A time of jubilee is coming

When young and old return to Jesus

Fling wide you heavenly gates

Prepare the way of the risen Lord **CHORUS**

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Martin Smith

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Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray. Heavenly Father, in the transfiguration of Your Son You have shined grace and glory upon the world, and by Your own testimony we hear that Jesus is indeed Your beloved Son. Help us to heed Your voice and bask in the light of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, our transfigured Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:8–18

⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. ¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."

¹³So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst 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. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

L Praise the Lord, all nations! **C** **Extol Him, all peoples!**

L For great is His steadfast love toward us, **C** **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.**

L Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; **C** **bring an offering, and come into His courts!**

Epistle

2 Peter 1:16–21

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 were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Beautiful Savior

1. Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I’d love Thee,
Truly I’d serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2. Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

3. Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Apostles’ Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Verse

Ps. 45:2a

Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter. **C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, 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 white as light. ³And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁵He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." ⁸And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory



1 Swift - ly pass the clouds of glo-ry, Heav-en's voice, the daz-zling light;
2 Glimpsed and gone the rev - e - la-tion, They shall gain and keep its truth,
3 Lord, trans - fig - ure our per-ception With the pur - est light that shines,



Mo-ses and E - li - jah van - ish; Christ a - lone com - mands the height!
Not by build-ing on the moun-tain An - y shrine or sa - cred booth,
And re - cast our life's in - ten - tions To the shape of Your de - signs,



Pe - ter, James, and John fall si - lent, Turn - ing from the sum-mit's rise
But by fol - low - ing the Sav - ior Through the val - ley to the cross
Till we seek no oth - er glo - ry Than what lies past Cal - v'ry's hill



Down-ward toward the shad-owed val-ley Where their Lord has fixed His eyes.
And by test - ing faith's re - sil-ience Through be - tray - al, pain, and loss.
And our liv - ing and our dy - ing And our ris - ing by Your will.

Sermon – “The Transfiguration of Jesus”

1. Transfiguration Sunday closes the Season of Epiphany, which is all about how Jesus reveals who He is.
2. Just as we need light to live in this world, in order to receive salvation, we need the light of the revelation of Jesus that gets us through this life and into the next with Him forever.
3. He wanted to show them His true identity in a special way, so they could understand better who He was. They just didn't understand Jesus' mission as the Saviour included suffering and dying, so they would not be able to understand Jesus at all. They ultimately needed to listen and learn that the road to eternal glory is through the cross.
4. The mountaintop experience...
 - a. The “metamorphosis” of Jesus on the mountain. Jesus' appearance was changed as He shone like the sun. Even His clothes were glowing.
 - b. Moses and Elijah appear and converse with Jesus... the Lawgiver and God's prophet shows us clearly how close the Kingdom of Heaven is, and how He reigns over both Heaven and Earth.
5. Jesus was a normal, ordinary looking Israelite man... But nevertheless, this normal, common, itinerate Rabbi is the Almighty Lord of Heaven and Earth. The Son of God in flesh. True God and True Man. All the fullness of God resides in this ordinary looking man.
6. Why do we need to know and understand that Jesus is not only the true, divine Son of God who humbled Himself, condescended to earth and took on ordinary human flesh... and looked like us? And why do we need to know and understand the fact that Jesus still is and always will be a normal looking human and God in Flesh all in that same person?”
 - He put on ordinary human flesh so as to save ordinary human beings
 - He came to save sinners... He didn't come for those who think they have it all together!
7. Jesus never sinned, and yet He chose to become sin... taking your sin away from you and carrying your sins on Himself as if they were His own.
8. Jesus went down from this glory on a mountain of Transfiguration to ordinary sinners in order to fulfill His mission to seek and save the lost.
9. In His Transfiguration, Jesus shows the world who He truly is. In His ordinary human appearance, we see He is a true man. Jesus' transfigured appearance shows He is true God... and shows the metamorphosis/transfiguration in store for Believers!

'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy
2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy
3 Ful - fill - er of the past And
4 Be - fore we taste of death, We
5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet

6



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,
beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -
hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y
see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the
we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us



like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.
li - jah stand, Thy mes - sen - gers of old.
glo - ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.
vi - sion bright And make this hill our home.
leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Today we celebrate the transfiguration of Jesus. We hear the voice of our heavenly Father saying, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." Yet, as we follow Jesus, we have often failed to listen to His words. We have chosen to listen to the voice of the world rather than the voice of our transfigured Lord. So now, we come before our heavenly Father to ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

- P** Heavenly Father,

C **we confess that we have not listened to You or Your Son. We have ignored His voice and plugged our ears to His words of mercy. Forgive our sins and open our ears to Your voice once again.**

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. God's face has shined upon us. We are forgiven in Christ.**

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Dear heavenly Father, on the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus revealed His light and glory to Peter, James, and John. Embolden us to proclaim Christ's light and glory to the ends of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Lord, Peter, James, and John heard Your voice on the mountaintop. Help us to heed Your voice and Your Word that comes to us in the Scriptures. Strengthen us to listen to Your voice rather than the voice the world. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Lord, comfort all those who are suffering in grief. Console them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal peace and life. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

MEN – Lord, Peter reminds us that no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but all prophets are carried along by the Holy Spirit. Send Your Spirit to call, gather, enlighten, sanctify, and keep Your people. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

ALL – Lord, You have shined the light of Christ on the world. Help us reflect Your light to those who are experiencing the darkness of the world. Bring community to the lonely, stability to those in transition, and safety to all those who have suffered abuse. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

WOMEN – Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, we commend all of these things to Your infinite mercies, which are new every morning. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

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.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy!

All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns

around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim

falling down before Thee,

Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

3. Holy, holy, holy!

Though the darkness hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinful man

Thy glory may not see,

Only Thou art holy; There is none beside Thee,

Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name

in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, Blessed Trinity!

Benediction

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