**transfiguration- febraury 11, 2024- zion lutheran**

**GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light,

word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge, **we pour out our hearts before you.** **We have known you but have not always loved you.** **We have wounded one another** **and sinned against you.** **We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit** **dwelling in each of us.** **Remember your covenant.** **Renew your creation.** **Restore us,**

**that we might proclaim your good news to all.** **Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God’s beloved.  **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG*How Good, Lord, to Be Here!* (ELW 315)**

1 How good, Lord, to be here!  
Your glory fills the night;  
your face and garments, like the sun,  
shine with unborrowed light.  
  
2 How good, Lord, to be here!  
your beauty to behold  
where Moses and Elijah stand,  
your messengers of old.  
  
3 Fulfiller of the past  
and hope of things to be,  
we hail your body glorified  
and our redemption see.  
  
4 Before we taste of death,  
we see your kingdom come;  
we long to hold the vision bright  
and make this hill our home.

5 How good, Lord, to be here!  
Yet we may not remain;  
but since you bid us leave the mount,  
come with us to the plain.

**announcements**

Welcome to worship on this Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday, February 11, 2024.

Announcements for this week….busy time of Lent begins this week with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday night from 5:30-7. Our Ash Wednesday service will be held on February 14th at 7:00. This will be a service of Confession and Holy Communion. Looking ahead there are lots of opportunities for Lenten worship during the next 6 weeks. The WEG Lenten worship series begins on Feb 21 at Trinity at noon. Zion has been invited to join in on this community ministry event, I might be looking for some volunteers to provide some items for the meal in the next few days.

We had a successful ACM last week; we will be installing our new church council during the service today. Thank you for your willingness to serve. Susan Mills was elected to attend the Synod Assembly in June, we give thanks for her willingness to serve at this important event.

**GREETING (ELW p. 213)**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**KYRIE (ELW p. 213)**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 213)**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 215)**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1-12**

A reading from 2 Kings.

*Today’s reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.*

1Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. 3The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”  
 4Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. 5The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”  
 6Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. 7Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.  
 9When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” 10He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” 11As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. 12Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 50:1-6**

1The mighty one, God the Lord, has spoken; calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
 2**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,** **God shines forth in glory.**  
 3Our God will come and will not keep silence; with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.  
 4**God calls the heavens and the earth from above** **to witness the judgment of the people.**  
 5“Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”  
 6**The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause,**  
  **for it is God who is judge.**

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.*

3Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. 6For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 216)**

**GOSPEL: Mark 9:2-9**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

2Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, 3and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. 4And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. 5Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 6He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. 7Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” 8Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.  
 9As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON (ELW p. 217)**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY*Christ, Be Our Light* (ELW 715)**

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.  
  
Refrain  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.  
  
2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. Refrain  
  
3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. Refrain  
  
4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. Refrain  
  
5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. Refrain

**INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, cities, provinces, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for any who are sick and suffering *especially* Vivian, Chris, Elizabeth, Zoli, Nick, Felix, Jill , our member in long term care, Robert, Bea, Evelyn and Rob and those we name either out loud or in the silence of our hearts.*.* Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

We pray for all in our world who are victims of injustice, oppression, exploitation, racial abuse, suffering, and violence. In the face of these actions we weep, but we are also called to stand up and call out these acts, examining our own hearts, values and ethics in caring for all of God’s beloved children. God of grace, **hear our prayer**

We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died. Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 217)**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING- *Create in Me a Clean Heart  (ELW 186)***

**CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 219)**

**THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Holy God,

Light of the universe, Teacher of truth, Giver of goodness, we hear your Word in the scriptures, proclaiming to us your wisdom and inviting us to follow your call.

For speaking this Word, we thank you, O God.

**We thank you, O God.**

Your Word came among us in Jesus, our brother, who preached your righteousness, healed the sick, and revived the brokenhearted. For giving us this Word, we worship you, O God. **We worship you, O God.**

By your Spirit, bless all who receive this Word, that upheld by the mystery of the body of Christ, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

For sustaining us with your Word, we praise you, O God. **We praise you, O God.**

Blessed are you, holy God, around us, with us, and in us, now and forever. **Amen.**

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**LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 221)**

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

**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.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**BLESSING**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

☩ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG*Shine, Jesus, Shine* (ELW 671)**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are God’s beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

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