

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD



February 11, 2024
10:00am

GATHERING

Prelude

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Charles Callahan

Land Acknowledgment and Invocation

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

We gather on the traditional homelands of the Ojibwe, Ho Chunk, and Dakota peoples.

We acknowledge that through our Maker we are all related.

The roads that brought us here today were places where Indigenous people walked and lived on this sacred land, and still do today.

We gather to honor the Creator, and all creation—human, animal, plant, water, wind, earth, and sky—that belong to God.

Opening Hymn Alleluia, Songs of Gladness

#318

Apostolic Greeting

Glory to God

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

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

Children's Message

The First Reading is from 2 Kings, Chapter 2

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah 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.

The 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." Elijah 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.

The 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."

Then 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.

Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then 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.

When 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."

He 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."

As 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. Elisha 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!**

Anthem

Shine Down

Bill Smiley, arr. Mark Brymer

Shine down your light on me, Let the people see
That in your presence darkness flees.
Father of Light shine down on me.

There's a land full of glory in that place where there is no light
And in that holy city burns a beacon of everlasting light.
The light that keeps reaching to the people of ev'ry land,
A love that is longing to feel the heart of ev'ry man.

Shine down your light on me, Let the people see
That in your presence darkness flees.
Father of Light shine down on me.

There's a Son in that city the Father's throne is its only light.
The lamp of salvation, the hope that is always glowing bright.
It scatters the darkness, swept away by His mighty hand.
Now all nations can worship sing the songs of that glorious man.

Shine down your light on me, Let the people see
That in your presence darkness flees.
Father of Light shine down on me.

The Second Reading is from 2 Corinthians Chapter 4

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In 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.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For 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



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel for today comes from Mark Chapter 9

Glory to you, O Lord.

And after six days, Jesus takes along Peter and James and John and brings them up to a high mountain privately by themselves. And he was transformed before them, and his clothes became dazzling, intensely bright, like no launderer on earth is able to brighten. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter responds and says to Jesus, "Rabbi, it's good we are here. We should set up three shelters—one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah."

See, he didn't know how to respond, 'cause they were terrified. And a cloud came overshadowing them, and there was a voice from the cloud, "This is my beloved son. Listen to him!" And suddenly, looking around they no longer saw anyone except Jesus alone with them. And while they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus ordered them to tell no one what they had seen until after the Human One had risen from the dead. And they seized on this word, wondering among themselves what "risen from the dead" meant.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn

Dazzling Presence on the Mountain (sung to the tune of Nettleton)

Verse 1

Dazzling presence on the mountain:
human eye had never seen
such a wonder, such resplendence,
heav'n and earth in cloud convene.
"This is my Son, the beloved,"
thund'rous voice from cloud exclaimed.
Word made flesh to heal creation,
to disciples God proclaimed.

Verse 2

From this mount of mystic splendor
to the cross Christ presses on;
here no Moses nor Elijah,
only thieves Christ's wings adorn.
"Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,"
was one's penitential sigh.
With transfiguring assurance,
Christ rejoins his fervent cry.

Verse 3

From the heights of new creation,
Christ beholds his world, redeemed;
as with Peter and companions,
brings us now to sights unseen.
Justice, mercy, and compassion:
these the booths he bids us build,
that the earth he loves may flourish
as each life with grace is filled.

Verse 4

Let our praise ring from each mountain,
into deepest valleys pour,
where, with lives of grateful service,
we adore Christ evermore.
To the Son, God's own beloved,
and the Spirit endlessly,
may the church's praise be lifted
to the blessed Trinity.

Apostles' 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 the Church

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.

... 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

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Offering

Nettleton

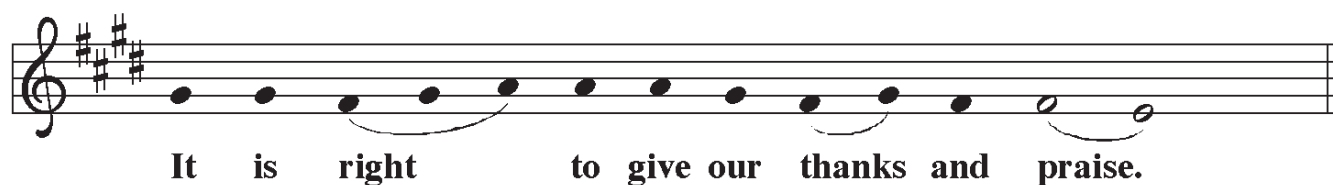
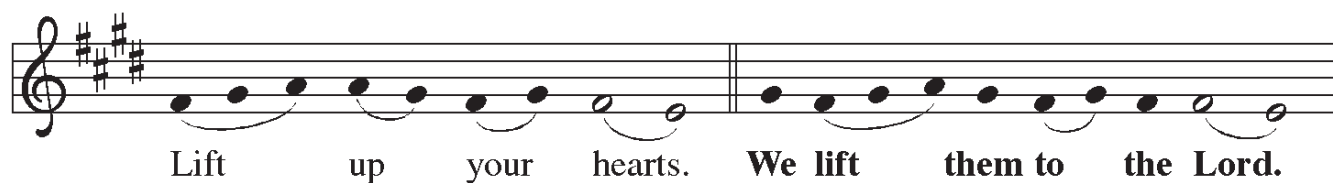
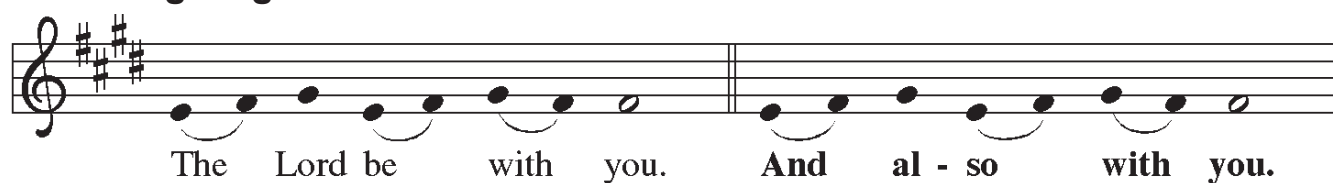
Kevin Sadowski

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

Communion

Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

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 Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#631

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Scherzo

Alan Ridout



A N N O U N C E M E N T S

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Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge–Jones **Organist:** Elaine Mann
Assisting Minister: Mitch Piper **Choir Director:** Diana Cataldi
Reader: Barb Piper

Weekly Calendar		
<u>SUNDAY (11th)</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>
Coffee Hour – 9:30am Worship – 10am	Prayer Group – 11am Strong Bodies – 1pm	Strong Bodies – 1pm Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm
<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY (18th)</u>
Elizabeth Circle – 10am	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> Crafters – 10am Text Study – 12pm Ash Wednesday Service – 6:15pm Choir Rehearsal – 7pm	Coffee Hour – 9:30am Worship – 10am
Other groups using the building this week: Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, ADRC, Theater Guild		

Walking Together

Our Synod’s Walking Together is an annual event that assists with resource sharing, best practices in ministry, new initiatives, and collaboration. This year we will explore the theme “I Love to Tell the Story.”

(Pastor Phil is preaching and leading a workshop.)

February 17, 2024 9:00 – 4:00

Bethany Lutheran — Rice Lake
\$25 per participant

Five sets of workshops with three options for each time slot!



- Leadership in the Church During a Time of Chaos & Crisis; Finished not Failed
- Fresh Expressions of Church (lead by Grace member, Diane House)
- I Love to Hear the Story Told (Pastor Phil and Lori)

- Synodically Authorized Ministers
- Fresh Expressions of Church (lead by Grace member, Diane House)
- Installing a Solar Panel Array in Your Church
- How Can Lutherans Respond to the Climate Crisis?
- Telling the Story of Our Hands Doing God's Work in the World
- Quilt of Justice
- Reconciling in Christ Journey
- Building Relationships with Our Indigenous Neighbors
- Until All Are Fed
- How to be an Ally for 2SLGBTQIA+ People
- Divine Ecology
- Bishop Election Q & A

More information: <https://nswi.org/walking-together-epic>

Sunday School

Classes will be held during the worship service following the children's message on the following dates:

- February 18
- March 3
- March 17
- April 7
- April 21
- May 5
- May 19

Family Choir

The family choir will be rehearsing and singing during the worship service on the following dates:

- Rehearsal: February 11 & 25
- Sing: March 3
- Rehearsal: March 17
- Sing: March 24 (Palm Sunday) & 31 (Easter service)
- Rehearsal: March 31; April 14 & 28
- Sing: May 12 & 19 (Music Sunday)

Serving At Beacon House

Grace members' help is needed to provide evening meals at the homeless shelter for families. Our dates of commitment are Feb. 15, 16, and 17. There are currently 5 adult parents and 11 children (10 below the age of 6) living at Beacon House. The permanent staff provide the professional work to help these families secure housing. We, as a sponsoring church, provide evening meals 4 weeks of the year.

The sign up sheets are posted on the Lighthouse in the Narthex. Direct questions to Barb Radke 715-835-3440.



Ash Wednesday Service 6:15pm February 14



YOU ARE DUST AND GOD HAS ALWAYS SEEN
SACRED POTENTIAL IN DUST.

Grace Lutheran Church

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org> go to “Our Ministry.”

Bulletins can also be found at <https://grace-church.org/> under the “Our Ministry.”

Recordings of worship services are also broadcast on:

- Televised on Sundays 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)

If you missed one of our services, they are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck3CdLQ1sDO6esaa3zUMKCQ>

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Wednesday by 2:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713