

Sunday, March 3, 2019  
Transfiguration of Our Lord

**PRELUDE**

***"When Morning Gilds the Skies"***

Burkhardt

**\*GATHERING SONG**

***"When Morning Gilds the Skies"***

**ELW 853**

*vs 1 All, vs 2 Women, vs 3 Choir, vs 4 Men, vs 5 All*

**When morning gilds the skies,  
my heart awaking cries:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
When evening shadows fall,  
this rings my curfew call:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**When mirth for music longs,  
this is my song of songs:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
God's holy house of prayer  
has none that can compare  
with "Jesus Christ be praised!"**

*No lovelier antiphon  
in all high heav'n is known  
than "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
There to the eternal Word  
the eternal psalm is heard:  
oh, Jesus Christ be praised!*

**Let all of humankind  
in this their concord find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Sing, sun and stars of space,  
sing, all who see his face,  
sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
God's whole creation o'er,  
today and evermore  
shall Jesus Christ be praised!**

**\*GREETING**

**☞** *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.

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

*“Beautiful Savior”*

**ELW 838**

**Beautiful Savior,  
Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

☐ *Holy God, mighty and immortal,*

☒ **you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.**

**Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!**

**ANTHEM**

*“How Great Is Our God”*

Tomlin/Cash/Reeves

Chancel Choir

Jim Pierce, bass guitar

**FIRST READING**

**Exodus 34:29-35**

*Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the ten commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.*

<sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. <sup>31</sup>But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup>Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup>When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; <sup>34</sup>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, <sup>35</sup>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.

**Reflection**

*What a strange story! Where has Moses been? (verse 29) What has he been doing? What does he bring with him? What do the Israelites (including Aaron) see when they look at Moses? Why were they afraid? (See Exodus 19:12-21) Why did Moses have to wear a veil on his face? (verses 30-35) Have you ever seen something that makes your heart beat with wonderful fear? What do you think would happen if we could see God? How does Jesus (who is God in the flesh) make a difference?*

## PSALM 99

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is king; let the | people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD, | great in Zion,  
is high a- | bove all peoples.**

<sup>3</sup>Let them confess God's name, which is | great and awesome;  
God is the | Holy One.

<sup>4</sup>**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;  
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down be- | fore God's footstool;  
God is the | Holy One.

<sup>6</sup>**Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your |  
name, O LORD,  
they called upon you, and you | answered them,**

<sup>7</sup>you spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud;  
they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.

<sup>8</sup>**O LORD our God, you answered | them indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their | evil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup>Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's | holy hill;  
for the LORD our God is the | Holy One.

### Reflection

*Having read the first reading, why do you think the psalmist calls on the people to tremble and the earth to shake? (verse 1) Where is God found in this psalm? (verse) What words does the psalmist use to describe God? (verses 3-5) Who are the people whom the psalmist calls on when proclaiming God's greatness? (verse 6) How did they encounter God? (verse 7) How did God relate to them? (verse 8) How are we to encounter God? (verse 9) How have you experienced God's punishment? How have you experienced God's forgiveness? Does God's punishment express enmity or love? Why do you answer the way you do?*

## SECOND READING

## 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

*In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.*

<sup>12</sup>Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; <sup>16</sup>but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>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.

<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; 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.

### **Reflection**

*Paul answers the question I had reading the Exodus text—what difference does Jesus make when we encounter God? In what ways is our understanding and encounter with God different from the people in the time of Moses? (verses 12-15) I think Paul is talking about reading the Torah, which because of Jesus we read and hear differently. How does Jesus remove the veil? (verses 16-17) How does hearing the Word of God affect us who hear it through Jesus and the Spirit? (verse 18) Are you ever tempted to lose heart about sharing God’s love? (verse 1) Why is it important to not hide one’s faith but share it openly? (verse 2)*

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”**

**ELW 172**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.**

### **\*GOSPEL**

**Luke 9:28-43a**

*The conversation about Jesus’ suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus’ identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.*

<sup>28</sup>Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup>They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup>Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup>Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup>While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup>Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” <sup>36</sup>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.

<sup>37</sup>On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. <sup>38</sup>Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. <sup>39</sup>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. <sup>40</sup>I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” <sup>41</sup>Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” <sup>42</sup>While he was coming, 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. <sup>43a</sup>And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

**Reflection**

*This reading, which is the story we call the Transfiguration, is an “unveiling.” Where is Jesus in this story? (verse 28) Who is with him? What are they doing there? What happens to Jesus? (verse 29) If we take the story of Moses in Exodus 34 as the pre-figuring of this story, what does Jesus’ appearance say about him? Who appears with him? (verse 30) What are they talking about? (verse 31) What do you make of the disciples struggling (and managing) to stay awake during this? (verse 32) What is Peter’s Splendid Idea? (verse 33—I used the capital letters intentionally) What happened? (verse 34) What do they hear? (verse 35) When have we heard something like this before? (See Luke 3:21-22) What did they all say when it was over? (verse 36) Why? What happens when they come down from the mountain? (verses 37-40) Peter and the others may have wanted to stay on the mountain with Jesus, but it was not to be. What comes next? (verses 41-43) What do you think this means for us as followers of Jesus, who sometimes prefer to remain in the cloud? How do we go about the things that Jesus calls us to do?*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Kris Langdon

**SERMON**

***“Reflection of God’s Glory”***

Rev. Roger Lenander

**SONG OF THE DAY**

***“Shine, Jesus Shine”***

**ELW 671**

***Refrain***

**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**

**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 *Refrain***

**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 *Refrain*

**\*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!

**\*PRAYER SONG**

*"Hear Our Prayer"*

ELW 178

*sing twice before the prayer and once after the prayer*

Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:  
peace to all people, hope for each soul.  
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church. Open us to listen to your word and to do your will. Direct us in paths of faithful service that reflect your love. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

For the earth, your beloved creation and our fragile home; for mountains and prairies; for cities and wilderness areas. Renew places we have neglected or misused. Where natural disasters have altered the land, help us to honor nature's healing. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

For the nations. Shine the light of truth into world relationships hindered by mistrust or misunderstanding. Bring freedom and stability to all nations. Shelter those who have been displaced by war, famine, or natural disaster. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For those in need. Free those who struggle with shame or guilt. Bring clarity to those whose judgment is clouded by fear. Comfort those who grieve, and heal the sick *especially Linda, Dorothy, Trina, Linda, Elaine, Lisa and her baby Lara, and for those we name before you aloud or silently in our hearts (pause for 10 seconds).* Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For this assembly. Deepen our faith and understanding. Guide our ministries of hospitality and outreach. Renew us in the baptismal promise to care for others and the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died. Inspire us by their example and bring us with them into the eternal light of your presence. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen!**

**\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P** *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**G** **And also with you!**

**OFFERTORY**

***"This Little Light of Mine"***

arr. Mark Hayes

Praise Band

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

***"Let There Be Praise"***

**Let there be praise  
Let there be joy in our hearts  
Forevermore let His love fill the air  
And let there be praise**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** *God of all creation,*

**G** **all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

**\*DIALOGUE**

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**\*PREFACE**

**P** *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love,  
that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth  
are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna,  
hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna,  
hosanna in the highest.**

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**P** *In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** *Gathered together in one baptism, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**☞ Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen!**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**☞** *Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.*

**\*BLESSING**

**☞** *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in his grace.*

**☞ Amen!**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**☞** *We thank you, O God,*

**☞** **that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare,  
the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive  
free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory  
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**☞** *The God of glory dwell in you richly,  
name you beloved,  
and shine brightly on your path;  
and the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, the  $\text{✠}$  Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.*

**☞ Amen!**

**\*SENDING SONG**

*"He Is Exalted" / "All Hail King Jesus"*

He is exalted  
The King is exalted on high  
I will praise Him  
He is exalted forever exalted  
And I will praise His name

He is the Lord  
Forever His truth shall reign  
Heaven and earth  
Rejoice in His holy name  
He is exalted  
The King is exalted on high

All hail King Jesus  
All hail Emmanuel  
King of kings  
Lord of lords  
Bright Morning Star  
And for all eternity  
I'm going to praise Him  
And forevermore  
I will reign with Him

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P** *Go in peace. Christ is your light.*

**G** **Thanks be to God!**