

*** TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD – MARCH 2nd ***

OPENING SENTENCE (Hebrews 4:16)

Let us approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SPEAK O LORD (Keith Getty & Stuart Townend)

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
to receive the food of your holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
shape and fashion us in your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility;
test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—
let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—
truths unchanged from the dawn of time
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built
and the earth is filled with your glory.

CONFESSION

Friends in Christ:

Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to you all my sins, and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased you and deserve your punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask you, for the sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me. Amen.

I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart:

Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

I do.

Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy?

I do.

ABSOLUTION

Upon your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and on behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you.

Amen.

PSALM 99

The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

Great is the Lord in Zion; he is exalted over all the nations.

Let them praise your great and awesome name – he is holy.

The King is mighty, he loves justice – you have established equity; in Jacob you have done what is just and right.

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy.

Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel was among those who called on his name; they called on the Lord and he answered them.

He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud; they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.

Lord our God, you answered them; you were to Israel a forgiving God, though you punished their misdeeds.

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy.

TO GOD ON HIGH BE GLORY (Tune – LHS 86)

To God on high be glory
and peace to all the earth;
good-will from God in heaven
proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father;
your holy name, we sing –
our thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To you, O sole-begotten,
the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Saviour,
you take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
receive our heart-felt cry,
where you in power are seated
at God's right hand on high.

For you alone are holy;
you only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
be worshipped and adored;
you with the Holy Spirit
alone are Lord Most High,
in God the Father's glory,
"Amen!" our glad reply.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Lord God, heavenly Father, you glorified your Son from the heavens. Give us faith to perceive his glory and willingly follow him. Bring us, through his suffering and death, to the glory of the resurrection. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING - Exodus 34:29-35

The shining face of Moses

²⁹When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. ³²Afterwards all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the Lord had given him on Mount Sinai.

³³When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. ³⁴But whenever he entered the Lord's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING - 2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2

We reflect the glory of the Lord

¹²Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. ¹³We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. ¹⁴But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord

is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL - Luke 9:28-43

The transfiguration of Jesus

²⁸ About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendour, talking with Jesus. ³¹ They spoke about his departure, ^[a] which he was about to bring to fulfilment at Jerusalem. ³² Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, 'Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴ While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ A voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.' ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

³⁷ The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. ³⁸ A man in the crowd called out, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. ³⁹ A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.'

⁴¹ 'You unbelieving and perverse generation,' Jesus replied, 'how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.'

⁴²Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. ⁴³And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you O Christ.

NICENE CREED (Spoken Responsively)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father, He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord the giver of life,
who proceeds from, the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

FAIREST LORD JESUS (LHS 152)

Fairest Lord Jesus, King of creation,
Son of God and Mary's Son:
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honour,
O Thou my soul's delight and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands.
In the garb of verdant spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;
He makes the saddest heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the stars that gem the sky:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
than all the hosts of God on high.

Fairest Lord Jesus, King of creation,
Son of God and Mary's Son:
Glory and honour, praise, adoration,
ever be Thine, and Thine alone.

SERMON

PASS IT ON (AT 83)

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love: once you've experienced it,
you spread his love to everyone, you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding;
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love: once you've experienced it,
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found,
you can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound,
I'll shout it from the mountain top: I want my world to know,
the Lord of love, has come to me, I want to pass it on.

I'll shout it from the mountain top: I want my world to know,
the Lord of love, has come to me, I want to pass it on.

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Yes, it is right and good to thank you always, Lord God, holy Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord. You have sent your only Son to appear among us as a human being, and through him you have fully revealed the light of your presence to us. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your wondrous name, adore you ever more:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Tune - LHS 140)

**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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup, after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

"Drink of it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD (Tune - AT 75)

Jesus, Lamb of God,
You take away our sin,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

Jesus, Lamb of God,
You take away our sin,
Have mercy on us, Lord.

Jesus, Lamb of God,
You take away our sin.
Give us your peace. Amen.

COMMUNION INVITATION

Come, for everything is now prepared.

DISTRIBUTION

EAT THIS BREAD (AT 270)

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

I am the bread of life,
the true bread sent from the Father.

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

Your ancestors ate manna in the desert,
but this is the bread come down from heaven.

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,*

trust in me and you will not thirst.

**Eat my flesh and drink my blood,
and I will raise you up on the last day.**

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

**Anyone who eats this bread
will live forever.**

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

**If you believe and eat this bread,
you will have eternal life.**

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

DISMISSAL

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his holy and precious blood, strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life eternal. Go in peace. +

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

Almighty and loving God, we thank you for revealing your Son Jesus in glory before he suffered and died. Give us faith to recognise his presence with us in this sacrament, and strengthen us to suffer with him, until we come to share his glory. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

YOUR STRONG WORD BROKE THROUGH THE DARKNESS (LHS 823)

**Your strong word broke through the darkness;
at your speaking it was done.**

**For created light we thank you,
while your ordered seasons run.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to you: the light you send.

**Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia without end.**

**Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
dark as night and deep as death,
broke the light of your salvation,
breathed your own life-giving breath:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to you: the light you send.

**Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia without end.**

**Your strong Word declares us righteous;
bright with your own holiness,
glorious now, we press toward glory,
and our lives our hopes confess.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to you: the light you send.

**Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia without end.**

**From the cross your wisdom shining
now breaks forth in conquering might;
from the cross there beams for ever
all your bright redeeming light.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to you: the light you send.

**Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia without end.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Great and glorious God, thank you for revealing your Son, and for showing the light of his glory. Let us always reflect his glory. And as Jesus was willing to die for us, may we give of ourselves to others. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favour + and give us peace. **Amen.**

AT THE NAME OF JESUS (TIS 231)

**At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of Glory now:
this the Father's pleasure
that we call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.**

**Humbled for a season
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious
when from death he passed.**

**In your hearts enthrone him,
there let him make new
all that is not holy,
all that is not true.
He is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted and adored.**

**When this same Lord Jesus
shall appear again
in his Father's glory,
there with him to reign,
then may we adore him,
all before him bow,
as our hearts confess him
King of Glory now.**