

Salem February 23

Transfiguration of Our Lord

ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

RADIO WELCOME

Good Morning. Welcome to Salem Lutheran Church. We welcome all of you to worship today, especially those of you who are visiting, or are worshipping with us on Big Dog radio 98.9, KHUB 1340, or viewing on Spectrum cable. Please join us for coffee and fellowship following the service today.

This morning we welcome Greg Johnson the organ and thank him for sharing his musical talents with us today.

During this season of Epiphany, we remember the forgiveness we receive through Christ. We pause to give thanks for new life, new breath, and new hope found in our Savior Jesus. We hope and pray that your time here this morning fills you with this new hope for your week to come.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

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



- 1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
- 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
- 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
- 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
- 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



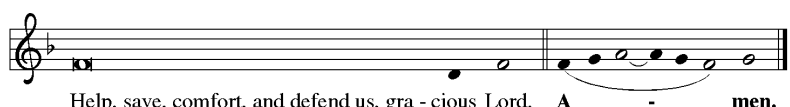
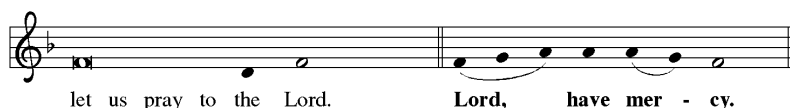
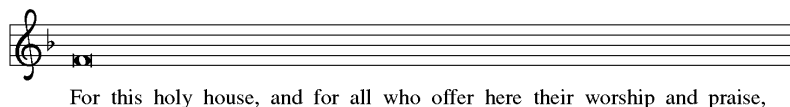
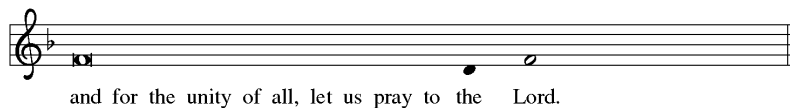
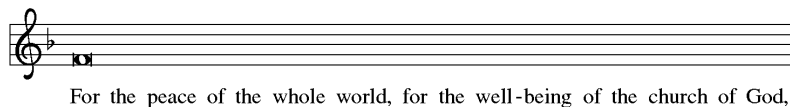
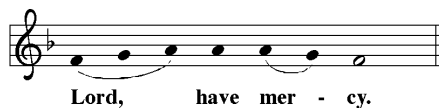
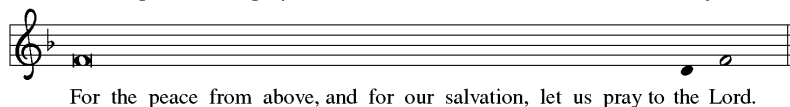
your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

GREETING

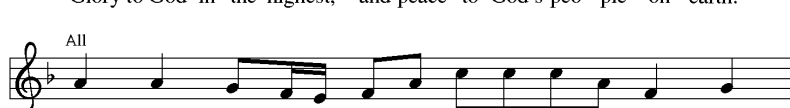
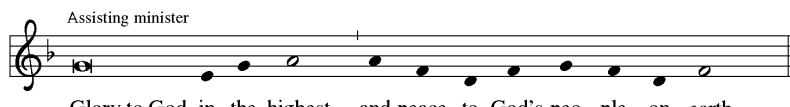
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



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

Let us pray.

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Exodus 24:12-18

A reading from Exodus.

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the LORD" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

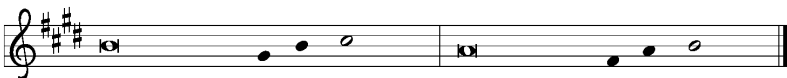
¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 2 (Tone 1)



¹Why are the nations | in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter | empty threats?

²**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes | plot together,**

against the LORD and against the | LORD's anointed?

³"Let us break their | yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their | bonds from us."

⁴**God whose throne is in heav- | en is laughing;
the LORD holds them | in derision.**

⁵Then in wrath God | speaks to them,
and in rage fills | them with terror.

⁶**"As for me, I have anoint- | ed my king
upon Zion, my | holy mountain."**

⁷Let me announce the decree | of the LORD,
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- |
gotten you.

⁸**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for |
your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for | your possession.**

⁹You shall crush them with an | iron rod
and shatter them like a | piece of pottery."

¹⁰**And now, you | kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers | of the earth.**

¹¹Submit to the | LORD with fear,
and with trembling | bow in worship;

¹²**lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden
| blaze of wrath.**

Happy are all who take ref- | uge in God!

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21

A reading from 2 Peter.

At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

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 had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

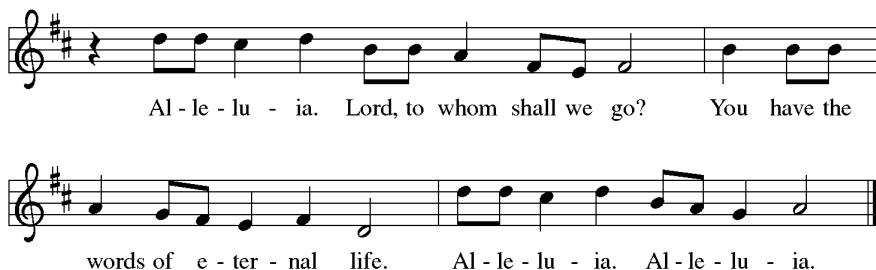
¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully

confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John 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 dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But

Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHOIR ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Beautiful Savior* (ELW 838)



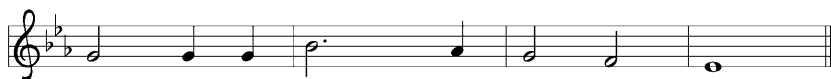
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in the flow'rs of spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

NICENE CREED

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 worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Holy God, your loving power is at work among us. Rouse and embolden your church, that we too might be transfigured, set alight in the world for the sake of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Awesome God, you speak and the earth trembles. You display your majesty in the mountains and your mystery in the clouds. Grant that we discover your magnificence in all of your created world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ruler of nations, your reign extends across all human borders. Guide world leaders (*especially*) in justice and righteousness, that they may work for equity for all people and protect the world that you have made. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, you are a refuge for all who are neglected and abused. Bring freedom to those who are oppressed and give comfort to those experiencing pain of any kind (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of Moses and Elijah, you made your dwelling place at the top of a mountain with Jesus and his disciples. Dwell also in this congregation, that all who enter this community might be transformed by your dazzling brilliance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Everlasting God, you offer eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the witness of those who lived and died in the faith (*especially Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, whose martyrdom in the early church we remember this day*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

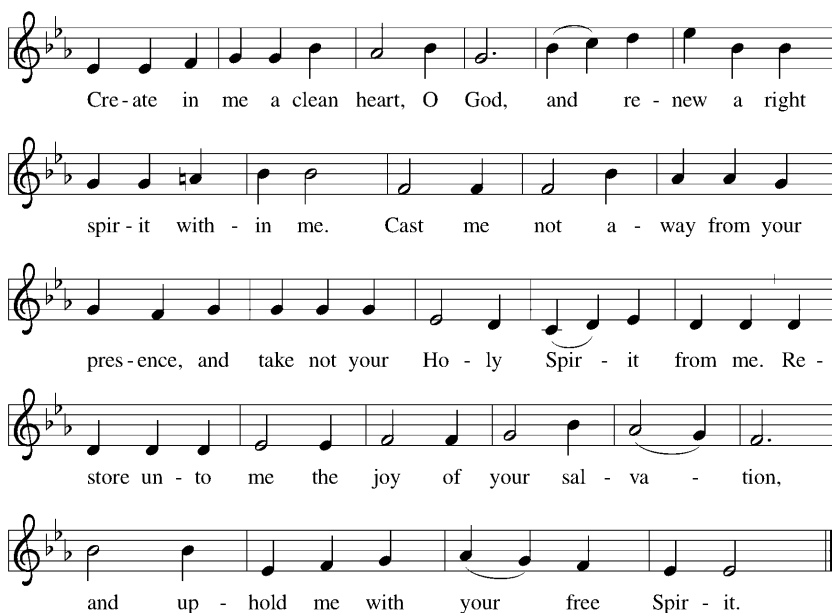
For your many blessings Lord,
we give you thanks and praise.

For all these things and those unspoken,
we are thankful Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come Eat Pancakes and support our youth – Shrove
Tuesday Pancake Dinner Tuesday from 5 – 6:30 pm

Ash Wednesday worship at 7:15 pm with dinner at 5:30 pm.

Lenten devotionals are available today with large or regular print, or sign up for the email version.

Starting on Wednesday we will begin a 40 day challenge that has to do with the purple bracelet you received when you arrived today. Pastor Shari will explain.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

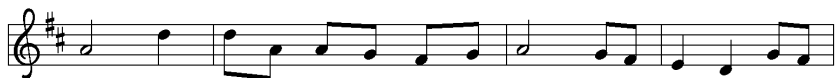
A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing! (ELW 393)



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New hymns through-out the world shall
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the Mount of Ol - ives
3 To whom the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and gaze up - on the
4 "You see him now, as-cend-ing high up to the por-tals of the
5 O ris - en Christ, as-cend-ed Lord, all praise to you let earth ac -



ring: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ, by a road be - fore un -
stand, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! and with his faith-ful fol-l'wers
sky?" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "This is the Sav - ior!" thus they
sky." Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! "Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall
cord: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! You are, while end-less ag - es



trod, as - cends un - to the throne of God.
see their Lord as-cend in maj - es - ty.
say, "this is his glo-rious tri-umph day!" Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le -
see re - turn-ing in great maj - es - ty."
run, with Fa - ther and with Spir - it one.



lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

LITANY OF FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

P: We heard an angel speak to Mary, and we sang "alleluia."

C: We saw Jesus heal a leper, and his gasp was "alleluia."

P: We have seen grace. We have seen good. We have shouted "alleluia!"

C: But alleluia cannot always be our song.

P: We see Jesus betrayed and broken, and we hear no alleluia.

C: We see ourselves betrayed and broken, and we have no alleluia.

P: We know suffering. We see sadness. We shout out in silence.

C: Alleluia cannot always be our song.

P: In Lent, we journey towards the cross, and we leave behind our “alleluia.”

C: Today, we leave behind our alleluia, and silence fills its place.

Silence – put away alleluia

P: Silence will not always be our song.

C: On Easter, we will once again claim our “alleluia!”

P: We will hear that the tomb is empty, and we will shout out “alleluia!”

C: We will see our risen Lord, and he will look like “alleluia.”

P: But alleluia cannot always be our song.

C: Today, we leave behind our alleluia, and silence fills its place.

Silence.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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