TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY March 2, 2025

INVOCATION

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Linda Orsen Theophilus, Pastor 420 Nike Drive - 412- 824-5945/412-401-5742 cell

KYRIE

HYMN OF PRAISE - "Gloria, Gloria, Gloria"p. 176

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.**

FIRST LESSON EXODUS 34:29-35

PSALM 99

SECOND LESSON 2 CORINTHIANS 3:12-4:2

VERSE: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL LUKE 9:28-43a

REFLECTION – Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

HYMN #838 ELW INSERT "Beautiful Savior"
"Glorioso Cristo"

APOSTLES CREED

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Transfiguring God, through the glory of your presence, you transform us. Move the church from complacency to boldness in sharing the good news with others.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

We pray for your creation. As seasons change, give patience and skill to all who tend to animals giving birth. Grant nourishing weather for the growing of crops.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

We pray for all in leadership, especially for those who lead states, counties, and local municipalities. Give them wisdom to protect local resources so that all will flourish both now and in the years to come.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Bring your healing grace to those who feel distant from you. Speak comfort to those who need your words of mercy. We pray for those close to our communities and in our hearts (*especially*).

God of grace, hear our prayer.

God of our past, present, and future, lead us into new beginnings, trusting in the promise of new life in Christ. Accompany congregations needing to close, and give courage to congregations starting new ministries, including our Spanish language Sunday evening worship.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Renewing God, the saints who have gone before us witnessed to the ways you transform your church and people. We give thanks for their example and pray we carry it forward.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

SHARING PEACE

OFFERING Song "Allelu, Allelu" HOLY COMMUNION WITH LORD'S PRAYERp. 129

BENEDICTION – The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

THIS WEEK AT EMMANUEL

SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. Worship

TUESDAY 6:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner WEDNESDAY noon Ash Wednesday service; also on

Zoom

7:00 p.m. AA

Let us pray for...

Kurt Kusserow, **Bishop, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod** Peter Asplin, Melissa Stoller, **Assistants to the Bishop**

Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Bishop Henrik Stubkjær, **President, Lutheran World Federation** President Modeste, **Tulear Synod, Malagasy Lutheran Church**

HEALING & SPECIAL NEEDS: George & Debbie K., asylum seekers especially children, Rachel F., Pr. Norm M., Peggy E., Marilyn & Brian H., Rose & Chip, Rita, Judy H., Kirk D., Noah, Karen M., Len & Carole, Roni, Karin, Tommy C., Karen S., Darlene & Al, Lana, Dayton, Jeffery, Don W., Mindy, Nancy, Aligha, Ron R., Zach F., Katie, Ed R., Tyler C., Nan, Sandra, Lisa, Marlene, Bill, Amy, Tony, Patty N., Marylene, Yuri, Roy, Leilani, Lynn F., Pr. Tony, Shelly, Debbie, Myschal, Dawn, Danny M., Dr. Simek, Pr. Dona, Pete, Alex, Barbara, Cheyanne & Whitney's mother, Anna, Amanda & baby, Holly, Ruth Y., & all with flu, RSV, COVID and unknown illnesses.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: Lois Peddicord's Aunt Patty.

NURSING HOME / ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Jane Freund (Concordia Ridgewood-Plum); Shirley & Jack Pickens (William Penn Center); Roni Mayhood (Merakey); Esther Schwab (Beatty Point); June Minnear (Beatty Point Village); Evelyn Rae Dodson (Harmarville Village).

CAREGIVERS: Judy M., Chris, Chip, Rebecca, Darlene, Elaine.

EMPLOYMENT: Derrick, Yelisbeth, Cassie, Tyler.

COUNTRY OF THE MONTH: Ukraine

MISSION PARTNER: Holy Trinity - East Pittsburgh

CHURCH OF THE MONTH: Christ's Lutheran Murrysville

LUTHERAN AGENCY: Lutheran Senior Life

SCHOOL OF THE MONTH: Beechview Elementary

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.

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

Psalm: Psalm 99

Proclaim the greatness of the LORD; worship upon God's holy hill. (Ps. 99:9)

¹The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

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

²The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.

³Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.

⁴O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool; God is the Holy One.

 6 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,

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;

they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

⁸O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

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

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.

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ 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.

^{4:1}Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We 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.

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.

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² 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. ³³ 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. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶ 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.

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

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