

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

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February 22, 2009

Transfiguration Sunday

Today's Focus:

- THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS -
AND YOUR TRANSFIGURATION THROUGH JESUS

Pre-service meditation:

The Transfiguration of Jesus is always celebrated in our Lutheran circles on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. It must not be isolated from what has gone before or what will follow. It forms a bridge between the seasons of Epiphany and Lent. Immediately prior to this glorious event, Jesus had been talking with the disciples about His rapidly approaching Passion. He knew that soon He would begin His fateful last journey to Jerusalem. The disciples had difficulty dealing with this, sharing the common Jewish expectation of a Messiah who would demonstrate earthly pomp and power. A suffering Messiah was foreign to their thinking. The Transfiguration served the purpose of giving them a glimpse of Jesus' true identity, something for them to remember on the dark days that lay ahead of them as their Master would be arrested, tried, sentenced, and executed. It is something for us as His disciples also to remember in any dark days that lay ahead as well.

OPENING HYMN 720 (*Tan Worship Supplement*)

Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair

THE ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE - *Worship Supplement, Page 12*



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

2 Kings 2:1-12a (excerpts) (*on back*) *Elijah passes the prophetic mantle to his successor, Elisha, who then continues also to carry on the prophetic ministry.*

PSALMODY

Psalm 8:1-2; 3-5, *Worship Supplement, Page 27*

"O LORD, Our LORD"

Mark 9:2-9 (*on back*) *The account of Jesus' Transfiguration.*

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Worship Supplement, Page 15 – Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed was written as a brief summary of the Christian faith as believed and taught by the Apostles.

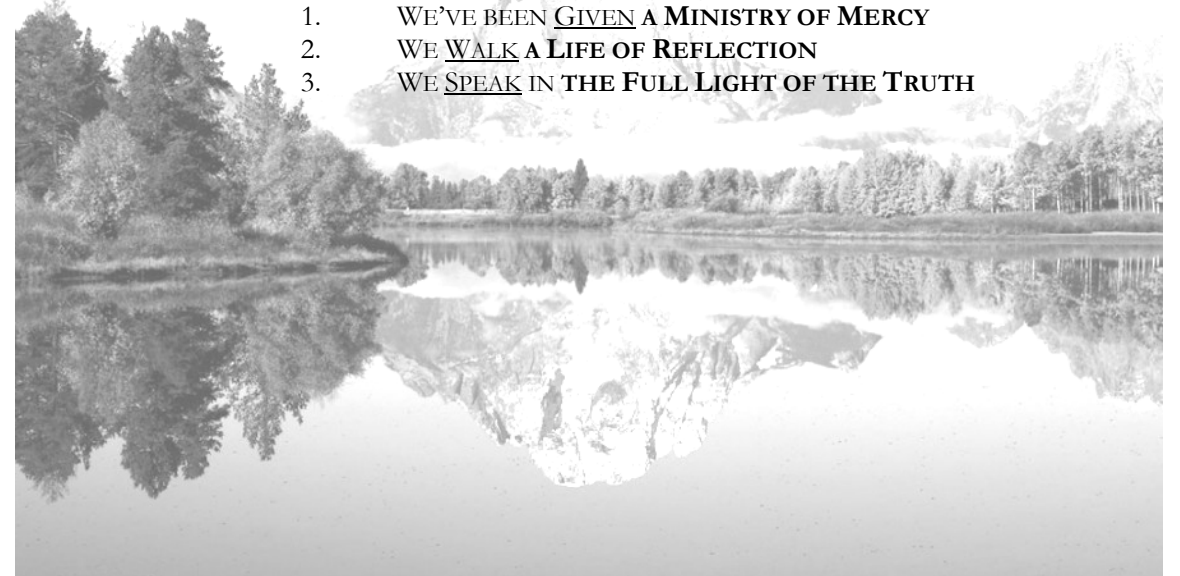
HYMN 135 (*Red Hymnal*)

'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

SERMON NIV 2 Corinthians 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 every man's conscience in the sight of God.

THEME: YOU ARE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST! **THEREFORE...**

1. WE'VE BEEN GIVEN A MINISTRY OF MERCY
2. WE WALK A LIFE OF REFLECTION
3. WE SPEAK IN THE FULL LIGHT OF THE TRUTH



OFFERTORY - *Worship Supplement, Page 16*

HYMN 398 (*Red Hymnal*)

Renew Me, O Eternal Light

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS – **Sing 400 v. 1, 6** (*Red Hymnal*)

*Take my life and let it be; Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour; At Thy feet its treasure-store;
Take myself, and I will be; Ever, only, all, for Thee.*



SPECIAL PRAYERS - GENERAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER - BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 298 v. 1, 5-6 (*Red Hymnal*)

Baptized into Thy Name Most Holy

NEWS and NOTES

Welcome visitors! We are very happy that you are here with us today and invite you to come again! Please sign our guest book in the hallway. If you have questions about our church and school please ask!

TODAY: Continuation of our study of the prophet Jeremiah.

ASH WEDNESDAY: service this week at 7pm!

POEMS AND PRAISE BOOKS are in. See pastor if you ordered a copy!