



He was transfigured before them ...
and his clothes became dazzling white ...
Mark 9:2-3, NRSV

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God told the disciples: “This is my Son. ... Listen to him” (Mark 9:7). Welcome to worship, where we pause intentionally to listen to Jesus. We might never see Jesus in the shining brilliance that some disciples witnessed (Mark 9:2-9). But, God, help us recognize him in the dazzling light of love poured out selflessly among neighbors.

If you are visiting us today, we ask that you complete a Visitor Registration slip (yellow form) found at the end of each pew. You may place the visitor registration form in the offering plate or give it to one of the Deacons as you leave the worship service this morning. Please come back and worship with us again soon.

Large print (sight saver) bulletins are available. Just ask an usher!

Transfiguration Sunday

February 11, 2018

The Order of Service

Prayer and Preaching, LSB Page 260

The Choir

“Lift Your Eyes and See the Glory”

The Hymns

LSB #583; #394; #816

The Theme of the Day

The Vision Glorious

2 Kings 2:1-12a Elisha sees the glorious departure of Elijah
2 Corinthians 3:12 -4:6 Spirit-possessed people see the glory of God
Mark 9:2-9 At Transfiguration, we see the glory of God in Jesus

The Sermon

The Acolyte

Allana Ake

+ Soli Deo Gloria +

We thank our fieldworker, Tim Magill, for preaching this morning in Pastor’s absence. May the Lord continue to guide and bless Tim as he continues his studies for the ministry.

We send best wishes and God’s richest blessings to all of our members who are celebrating birthdays this week— Mark Conrad, Adam Sielschott, Brett Conrad, Remey Conrad, Kathy Jenkins, Michelle (Mrs. Matt) Knipstein,

Annastasia Scheumann (her first!), Doris Conrad, Mackenzie Dykes, Gary Heckman (his 92nd!), Lisa Bultemeier, and Jim Bultemeyer.



We rejoice with Jim & Cheryl Bultemeyer who are celebrating their 53rd wedding anniversary on Tuesday. Matt & Michelle Knipstein, Dan & Elizabeth Schuller, and Robert & Janelle Hartmann are celebrating wedding anniversaries this week as well. May our loving Father continue to guide and bless them through life's joys and challenges.

May the Great Physician give peace, good health, and strength to all who are in need of His healing hand. We especially remember in our prayers Rae Fuhrmann, Marlene Duffy (Rosie Bultemeier's sister), Tom Bauermeister, Pearl Litttig (Michelle Knipstein's mother), Nancy Gardner (Keith's mother), Nora Rauner (Michelle Scheumann's mother), and Cathy Terhune (Sherril Bradtmueller's daughter).



Newborns

We rejoice with Matthew and Haleigh Nidlinger on the birth of a baby girl, *Isabelle Rose*, born Tuesday, February 6, and Tyler and Kobie Stoppenhagen on the birth of baby girl, *Tanner Macoy*, born at Adams County Hospital February 7, 2018. May the Lord keep these children under his ever-watchful eye and receive them into His kingdom through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

We remember those who are presently serving our country (active duty or in the Guard)—Jason Putteet, Alan Bergdall, Derek Schultz, Jacob Stoppenhagen, Jordon Head (Keith & Mitzi Gardner's son-in-law and Maddy & George's brother-in-law), Jacob Lee, Sam Conrad (Germany), Chandler Bultemeier (Waldo & Rosie Bultemeier's grandson), Daniel Conrad who is in Kuwait (friend of the Drier's), and Chad Hall (Doris Conrad's son-in-law). May the Lord protect and guide them in their missions.

We remember our Wyneken librarian, Erin Hull; Toney Bergman who teaches in the North Adams system, and Cindy Krueckeberg, Michelle Scheumann, and Carson & Will Thompson, our nursery – kindergarten Sunday School teachers. May the Lord guide, direct, and bless them.

You will find our weekly "Time in the Word" study guide, *Lent is a Time of Testing*, in today's bulletin.

Please come to our Ash Wednesday services on **February 14** at 7 p.m. The midweek Lenten worship focuses on the 23rd Psalm. The focus this Wednesday is the first verse – *The Good Shepherd who shares His life with us*. Holy communion will be celebrated. Prior to the worship service, you will have the opportunity for the imposition of ashes. It is hoped you can attend this special service.

Would you rather attend services during the day? If so, you are welcome to attend chapel services with the students at Wyneken. Services will be held at 1 p.m. at Bingen beginning on Ash Wednesday. The service will last approximately one-half hour.

If you are coming to the evening service, consider having supper in the Parish Hall. It might make the evening a little less hectic. Serving begins at 6 p.m. Come, enjoy Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, rolls, a salad bar, dessert, and a drink as well as Christian fellowship. The free will offering will be given to The Hope Clinic.

Early-bird Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 6 a.m. in Bingen's Fellowship Hall.

Sunday School meets this morning. The Adult Bible Class, does not meet since we will be having our Annual Meeting.

The Monday evening class will be on a short break – they will not meet this Monday, but will resume on **Monday, February 19**, at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Area. We will be going over the lessons for the following week. Bring along your copy of Time in the Word. This discussion will help shape Sunday's sermon. See you then!

Pastor and Tammy Dahling will be out of town from until February 13. If you are in need of pastoral care during that time, please contact Rev. Russ Fuhrmann (260-894-7549), Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege (547-4176 or 223-1962) or Rev. Peter Brock (301-1640 or 639-6178)



Worship Anew is on Sunday mornings at 7 a.m. on 21.2 and at 8 a.m. on Frontier 9 or channel 21.3. The show also airs on Sunday mornings at 11:30 a.m. on Comcast 252 and at 4 p.m. on Sundays and 10 a.m. on Mondays on Comcast 55 or Frontier 25. "You Sure Look Different" from Mark 9:2-9 is the title of the Rev. Paul Shoemaker's sermon. When a person's appearance changes we take note. If it is for the good, we look for good news. If it is for the bad, we look for bad news. Jesus' appearance changed for the good. What news does Jesus have for us? For up-to-date information, check out their website at www.WorshipAnew.org. You can also watch this program on line or receive it by DVD's.

Can't make it to church? Listen to WZBD (92.7 FM), tuning in at 9:05 a.m. to hear our service live. You can also listen to the broadcast over the Internet by logging on to our website (www.zionfriedheim.org) and "Click here to listen to Zion's worship service on Sundays ..."



Greeters are needed for the remainder of 2018. Sign up on the sheet in the south entranceway!!

Need a Thrivent T-shirt? There are extras in the Gathering Area in various sizes with just a few left in the new color. Take one home with you today.

This week's secret code is **Q28957**. Go to www.games.childrensbulletins.com, enter the secret code, and access online games that reinforce this week's message.



Board of Stewardship's Food for Thought – God wants you to give the first part of your income to Him. Each and every week you are encouraged to make your first check from your income payable to God through your church. The Apostle Paul wrote, "On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside..." (1 Corinthians 16:2). When we give to God first, He is honored. We dishonor God when we give our leftovers. For many, these are challenging and tough times, and we have many expenses and bills to be paid. Satan, the world, and our flesh tell us we should spend our money on ourselves and give only minimally, if at all. As you prayerfully consider what you will give, ask God for strength and guidance.

Pack Away Hunger meal packets were distributed last Sunday. There are still a few left, so you can still participate in this fundraiser. Use this month to collect money for our Pack Away Hunger event on Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24. Put in your loose change or maybe the amount you might spend on a meal out. Each meal costs approximately 27¢. There will be soup pots in church on **Sunday, February 25**, for you to place your contribution. Please pray for a successful campaign.

The LWML Thursday morning Bible class is this **Thursday, February 15**, at the home of Karen Gallmeyer.

Browse and borrow anything that interests you in Roz's Reading Room and then return the book in the basket by the smaller shelf. (Place donations there too.)

Copies of the 2018 Lenten devotional can be found in the Gathering Area. In addition, you can go to our website and have an opportunity to read them there.

Meals of Grace coordinators are needed for 2018. Sign up in the entryway!

Our Annual Meeting is **this morning** following the worship service. Stay to hear the reports from the various committees and boards. Copies of the 2017 Annual Report can be found in the Gathering Area.

The Altar Guild meets on **Monday, February 12**, at 7 p.m. in the Gathering Area. Hope to see you at the meeting!

The Seasoned Walther Leaguers meet on **Tuesday, February 13**, at 12:30 p.m. in the Gathering Area. Please join the group for cards and Christian fellowship. Please bring a snack to share.

Would you be willing to bring a dessert to one of our mid-week Lenten meals? The first meal is on **Ash Wednesday, February 14**. Three desserts are needed each evening. If you can, please contact Shirley Buuck (547-4415 or 547-4248). Help will also be needed to prepare and serve the meals. If you are willing to assist with that, also give Shirley a call. Thanks in advance for your help!

Parents of the 2018 Confirmands: Don't forget that there will be a short meeting following the Ash Wednesday worship service. We need to go over a few things prior to this spring's examination and confirmation.

It's that time of the year – time to prepare for our Soup and Sandwich Luncheon. This year's co-chairs are Chuck & Deb Earhart and Chris & Sara Rhymer. ***They are in need of someone to apply for a Thrivent Action Team card to help with the expenses of the Soup & Sandwich (paper supplies, etc.) If you are willing to do so, please contact Deb Earhart.*** The following items are also needed. If you can donate any of the following, please contact Chuck or Deb at 724-8752 or 450-6522 or Chris or Sara Rhymer at 760-8840 or 701-4408. Thanks in advance for your help. Just a reminder that the decision as to where the funds will go will be decided at our Annual Meeting on **Sunday, February 11**.

Peach Slices – 8 quarts (or equivalent amount)	Turkeys – 4 whole
Roast Beef – 60 lbs.	Canned Beef – 16 lbs.
Noodles – 18 lbs. (narrow cut)	Chicken base – 2 lbs.
Hamburger – 50 lbs.	Beef Base – 1 lb.
Hot Dogs – 20 lbs.	Sweet Onion – 4 large
Ketchup – 2 squeeze bottles	Ketchup – 3 gallons
Mustard – 2 squirt bottles	Hot Dog Buns – 15 doz.
Horseradish Sauce – 2 squirt bottles	Hamburger Buns – 30 doz.
BBQ Sauce – 2 squirt bottles	Vinegar – 16 oz.
Pickle Relish – 2 squirt bottles	Cabbage – 4 head
Frozen Mixed Vegetables – 25 lbs.	Brown Sugar – 2 lbs.
Cottage Cheese small curd – 5 lbs.	Potatoes – 20 lbs.
Beef Broth – 2 gallons	Carrots – 3 lbs.
Pineapple Rings, Chunks, or Tidbits – 6 quarts (or equivalent amount)	Pear Halves – 4 quarts
Pink Lemonade – 2 – 5 lb. containers.	Coffee (decaf) – 3 lbs.
Worcestershire Sauce – 10 oz. bottle	Coffee (regular) – 3 lbs.
Milk – 50 individual cartons - White	Ice – 30 lbs.
Milk – 100 individual cartons – Chocolate	CASH

In addition, desserts and salads are needed. If you are willing to make a dessert or salad, **contact Stan or Tami Stoppenhagen at 728-9101 or 223-2203 for the salads and Jared & Ashley Beard (419-605-8009) for desserts.**

There will be a tote in the Gathering Area for you to drop off non-perishable items that are being donated to the Soup & Sandwich. Thank you in advance for your help with this fundraiser!

The men's basketball team is off until tournament play on **Monday, February 19**, at the Service Complex. Game information was not yet available. If you have questions, please contact Dan Buuck (223-4632).



All 6th – 12th graders and their families are invited to come for an afternoon of fellowship at the SportONE Ice House in Ft. Wayne **today**. We will carpool from Wyneken at 1 p.m. The cost is \$5 to ice skate. Please RSVP to Mr. Horning at 301-1496.

Copies of the 2018 Membership Directory can be found in the Gathering Area. Take a book home with you. If there are any changes to any information printed in the Directory, please contact the church office (churchoffice@zionfriedheim.org). Thanks!

Contribution statements were mailed on Friday, January 26. If you have questions concerning your statement, please contact Angie Baumann (Home Purpose), Mary Gallmeyer/Betty Sielschott (Missions), Christine Bultemeier (Friedheim Foundation), Mike Heckman (Wyneken Contributions), and Jim Heckman (Building/Expansion).

An update of the SGO credits – As of February 7, there is still \$1,383,215 left in SGO credits. If you have questions, you can contact Beth Kitson or Andrew Gavrun (our Wyneken principal). You can also go to the website, www.lutheransgo.org.



Your help would be much appreciated. Our youth will be preparing the Easter breakfast again this year (April 1); however, once again it falls during Spring Break and many of our youth will not be available to help. If you are willing to lend a hand with the breakfast, please contact Michelle Scheumann (705-4520). Thank you in advance!

Zion Lutheran Church, 17434 Schumm Road in Willshire, Ohio invites you to their Annual All You Can Eat Fish Fry this **Saturday, February 17**. Serving is from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$3 for children under the age of 12. All proceeds will assist in the medical expenses for Stephanie Wysong and Kaiden and Kaison Furr. Carryouts are available. This event is sponsored by Thrivent Financial and Barry's Family market of Rockford, Ohio.

St. Paul's Annual FISH FRY Tickets are ON SALE NOW! Join them for this year's *All-You-Can-Eat Fish and Tenderloin Dinner* on **Saturday, March 10**, 4-7 p.m., in St. Paul's Lutheran School gymnasium (1125 S. Barr St., Ft. Wayne, IN 46802). Tickets are on sale at \$10/Adult, \$8/High School Student, \$5 Elementary Student grades K-8, with Pre-K students and younger FREE. You may order tickets ONLINE by visiting their website at www.school.stpaulsfw.org, (just click on their FISH FRY button), or from their school office (1125 S. Barr St), OR from their church office (1126 S. Barr St). For information, you can contact Kris Hall in the school office at [260-424-0049](tel:260-424-0049). All are welcome!

The Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School and Church Annual Live & Silent Auction takes place **Saturday, March 17**, at the Allen County Fairgrounds. Join them for an evening of fellowship! Praise music provided by Redeemed. Silent auction will begin when the doors open at **6 p.m.** Live auction will begin at approximately **7 p.m.** ADULTS ONLY! (Must be 21 years-old to attend). No admission cost! Complimentary popcorn and desserts. Nacho bar and drinks available for purchase. Donations of NEW items or gift cards are currently being accepted. Auction profits will go towards purchasing educational supplies and equipment for their school along with furnishings and equipment for the new classrooms! If you have any questions please contact Angie at 710-5558 or Carrie at 760-7358. You can find them on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/BulldogAuction. Items to be auctioned off will be posted on Facebook between now and the auction.

Join other men in Christian fellowship on **April 6-8** at Lakeview Villages in Seymour, IN as we explore the topic of "Woman and Man According to God's Plan" with Dr. Joel Biermann. Get away and enjoy God's great creation, eat like a king at our hog roast and fish fry and join in the Medieval Challenge, Archery Tag, and much more. Visit www.mensgathering.us for info and registration.

Cross Connections and St. John's Lutheran Church in Columbia City (2465 W. Keiser Rd.) invite you to a free presentation on "Understanding Depression and How to Help Those Going Through It." The presentation is on **Saturday, March 17**, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in their Fellowship hall. The guest speaker is Megan Beeching, a counselor at Cross Connections. To register call St. John's at 260-244-3712 or email deaconessintern.stjohns@gmail.com by March 10. A light breakfast will be provided. (See the flier on the bulletin boards for more information.

Wyneken News

Wyneken's 2nd Annual Adult Prom and Silent Auction is set for **Saturday, March 10**, from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Orchard Ridge Country Club (4531 Lower Huntington Road in Ft. Wayne) with this year's proceeds going to Wyneken's Parent Teacher League (PTL). There will be music, hors d'ouvers, beer and wine. Cocktail attire only, no jeans please. You must be 21 to attend. Tickets are \$75 per couple and are on sale now. You can go online by going to Wyneken's Facebook page, click Events and then click the Wyneken Adult Prom and Silent Auction link. Tickets are also available in the Gathering Area this morning. If you have items you wish to donate to the auction, please contact Abby Wilder (260-413-3473 or abby_wilder@outlook.com).

Get your SCRIP from Michelle Knipstein (260-413-6249 or e-mail her at mmknipstein03@hotmail.com) this morning. You can also purchase SCRIP (limited availability) in the school office from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. while school is in session. There are SCRIP order forms at Wyneken's website, www.wyneken.org.

The date has changed! Come to God's Choice Night at 6:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 27**, for an evening of Biblical accounts presented by the Wyneken K-8th graders. Students are to arrive no later than 6:20 p.m. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Guests should enter the main doors and go to the gym.

Mark your calendar for **Monday, February 12**. The guest speaker at that night's PTL meeting is Cathie Bledsoe, Youth Educator for the Indiana State Police Internet Crime against Children Task Force. Her presentation is about internet safety and cyber bullying. The business portion of the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. with the special presentation will begin at 7 p.m.

Just a reminder that Wyneken will be closed on **Friday, February 16**, for a Teacher Professional Development Day and on **Monday, February 19**; however, both days will be used as E-learning make-up days.

Wyneken's Mini 4-H (for children in grades K – 2nd) meets on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in Friedheim's Parish Hall (basement). Meeting dates are **March 10 and 24 and April 7 and 21**. Club dues are \$5 and county dues are \$5.

Enrollment forms for the 2018-19 school year will be mailed in mid-February to all currently enrolled families and those who attended the open house and requested information. If you have had a recent change in your address, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

The K- 2nd graders will be singing at St. Paul Preble (10:15 a.m.) on **Sunday, February 25**.

Spring ISTEP testing Part 1 takes place **February 26 – March 9** for students in grades 3-8. IREAD – 3 Testing for students in third grade is **March 13-17**. *Parents, please do not schedule appointments or vacation days during these testing dates. THANK YOU!*

The *Almost Spring Concert* will be held in the Concordia Lutheran High School Auditorium on **Thursday, March 8**, at 7 p.m. Both the Beginning band and Intermediate/Advance will be performing at the concert. The beginning band is to report to the CLHS Band Room for practice on **Tuesday, February 20, from 6 – 7 p.m.**; the Intermediate/Advance Band, **Thursday, March 8, from 8 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.** *Please use Door 14 to drop off for rehearsals.*

The Valentine Class parties will take place on **Wednesday, February 14**. Check the PTL Handbook to see who you are sharing the party duties with and make contact with that parent.

Sports

There are two wrestling meets this week. Wyneken will host St. Peter, Holy Cross, and St. John – Emmanuel on **Monday, February 12**, beginning at 4:30 p.m. On **Thursday, February 15**, the squad heads to Holy Cross with a meet with St. Vincent 1, Central, St. John-Emmanuel, and Holy Cross. Again the meet begins at 4:30 p.m.

Summer T-ball, baseball, and softball on-line registration (www.hylball.com) is now open for the Hoagland Youth League. Registration is open until March 4. A flyer with complete information is available in the school office.



Offerings – through February 4

Home Purpose – NA; Missions – \$360

Attendance: Sunday Worship Service – 186 with 119 receiving Holy Communion; Sunday School – 37; Adult Bible Class - 12; Early-bird Bible Class – NA

THIS WEEK AT FRIEDHEIM

Today:	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Annual Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	All Youth Ice Skating - Oasis
	6:30 p.m.	Oasis HS - Bingen
Monday:	7:00 p.m.	Altar Guild
Tuesday:	6:00 a.m.	Early-bird Bible Class
	9:00 a.m.	Morning Glories
	12:30 p.m.	Seasoned Walther Leaguers
Wednesday:	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Immanuel House Open
	6:00 p.m.	Supper – Parish Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion (choir follows) Meeting for parents of 2018 confirmands
Thursday:	9:00 a.m.	LWML Bible Class – Karen Gallmeyer’s
Friday:	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Immanuel House Open
Friday – Saturday:		7 th grade Pre-Confirmation Retreat – Concordia Theological Seminary

NEXT WEEK AT FRIEDHEIM

February 18	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
	6:30 p.m.	HS Oasis Youth - Bingen
February 19	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Class
	TBA	Men’s Basketball Tourney
February 20	6:00 a.m.	Early-bird Bible Class
	9:00 a.m.	Morning Glories
February 21	9 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Immanuel House Open
	6:00 p.m.	Supper – Parish Hall

7:00 p.m. Midweek Worship (choir follows)
March newsletter items due in church office

February 22 9:00 a.m. LWML Bible Class

February 23 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Immanuel House Open

An Angel Says ... if you fill your heart with regrets of yesterday and with the worries of tomorrow, you have no today to be thankful for. – February 9 entry – What An Angel Might Say, ©2001, Mostly Memories™, Ozark, Missouri

The Readings – The Vision Glorious

2 Kings 2:1-12a – Elisha sees the glorious departure of Elijah– Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. And Elijah said to Elisha, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he said, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.” Elijah said to him, “Elisha, please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know it; keep quiet.” Then Elijah said to him, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.” And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:6 – Spirit-possessed people see the glory of God – Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God’s word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

Mark 9:2-9 – At transfiguration, we see the glory of God in Jesus – And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.” And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please turn to page 263 for the Common Responory and then to page 264 for the Catechism Review.

Thoughts about the Transfiguration

In Matthew 17, we read about Jesus' taking James and John up to the top of a high mountain. It was there that Jesus suddenly appeared to have a different countenance. He was transfigured, his body taking on a glow. Matthew writes: "His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white" (Matthew 17:2, NRSV).

Not only did his friends observe that amazing change but they heard a voice saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" (17:5).

What happened then? Those fellows did what many of us would have done. They fell to the ground overcome by fear. But they stayed there until Jesus came and touched them. He told them not to be afraid. Then, after they had settled down a bit, he led them down the mountain.

What does that experience say to us? Certainly it shows that Jesus is the unique Son of God. We might call this event the ordination of Jesus.

Time in the Word
Preparation for the 1st Sunday in Lent
12-17 February 2018

Christ Jesus Defeats Our Temptation and Saves Us by His Faithfulness



In faith and the fear of God, Abraham prepared to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. At the Word of the Lord, he “took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son” and “when they came to the place of which God had told him, ‘Abraham bound Isaac “and laid him on the altar” (Genesis 22:6,9). Then God stayed Abraham’s hand and provided “for Himself the Lamb for a burnt offering” (Genesis 22:8). That Lamb is God’s own beloved Son, Jesus, in whom “all the nations of the earth” are blessed (Genesis 22:18). As the Substitute for all the sins of men, Jesus is driven by the Spirit “into the wilderness” to be “tempted by Satan” (Mark 1:12-13) in order to endure and defeat all temptation. We are tempted by our own desire, “which conceives and gives birth to sin” (James 1:14-154). But this blessed man, Christ Jesus, remained “steadfast under trial” and He has received “the crown of life, which God has promised to those

who love Him” (James 1:12) His faithfulness, His victory, and His life are now given to us by His grace in the Gospel.

Monday 12 February 2018 – *Psalm 91:9-13; antiphon, Psalm 91:15-16* – The Introit sets the theme for the day: that, in times of trouble, the Lord is our only sure *dwelling place* and *refuge*. The Lord loves everyone who puts his trust in Him, and so He promises, “When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble.. I will rescue him and honor him;”

Tuesday 13 February 2018 – *Psalm 25:1-10* – In this psalm, David prays for God’s mercy when he is under attack by his enemies. He asks the Lord to remember His mercy and steadfast love, and not to look upon David’s sins. We do the same thing when we pray the Lord’s Prayer. We ask God to deliver us from evil, and in praying ‘*Forgive us our trespasses;*’ we pray that ‘*our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor on their account deny our prayer.*’ (Small Catechism)

Wednesday 14 February 2018 – *Genesis 22:1-18* – Our Old Testament reading - and the text for Ash Wednesday - is a familiar one; the testing of Abraham. When we New Testament believers hear this account, it reminds us of our Savior Jesus. Jehovahjirech – *The Lord Will Provide* – supplies a substitute for Isaac. The ram is caught by its horns, and thus remains unblemished, the perfect sacrifice. Likewise, the Lord offered up His Son Jesus on the cross to be our substitute. He was the perfect sacrifice, unblemished by the taint of sins.

Thursday 15 February 2018 – *James 1:12-18* – When we are baptized, it is as if a bull’s eye is painted on us. The devil will attack us, for he knows that, in Baptism, we are washed clean of our sins, and are made the children of God. When temptation comes, therefore, as it surely will, we must remain steadfast in the faith we received at Baptism.

We do this by reading and hearing God’s Word, by daily remembering our Baptism, and by being regular in our church attendance, where we confess our sins and receive absolution and where we receive the Lord’s Supper for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening and nurturing of our faith.

Friday 16 February 2018 – *Mark 1:9-15* – After our Lord’s Baptism, the Spirit led Him into the desert to suffer temptation at the hands of the devil. He endured the same temptations as were presented to Adam and Eve in the Garden – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, as the holy Evangelist John names them (1 John 2:16). Unlike our first parents (and us), however, He does not give into temptation, but resists the devil with the words of Holy Scripture.

Temptation is a testing of faith. Traditionally, the first Sunday in Lent deals with Jesus’ temptations in the wilderness. The beginning of Jesus’ ministry is an integral part of the baptism and temptation, for it naturally follows

both. In His baptism, Jesus was called to His Messiahship. In the temptation, He decided how to carry out His mission. The death of John the Baptist gives the immediate occasion for the beginning of His ministry. Mark does not tell us what the temptations were. They are symbolized by the “*wild beasts*” and the “*wilderness*.” Though Mark does not say Jesus was victorious, it can be assumed that He was because the angels continually ministered to Him throughout the forty-day period.

Saturday 17 February 2018 – The great hymn of the Reformation, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (LSB #656), is our hymn of the day. It reminds us that, though the devil is a formidable foe, one whom we are unable to overcome on our own, he has been defeated by the Word made flesh, our Savior Jesus. ‘*Our victory has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth.*’

Collect for the First Sunday in Lent: O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Collect for Ash Wednesday: Almighty God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Wednesday Evening Lenten themes: Jesus, our Good Shepherd

Ash Wednesday – Psalm 23:1

Mid-week #2 – Psalm 23:2

Mid-week #3 – Psalm 23:3

Mid-week #4 – Psalm 23:4

Mid-week #5 – Psalm 23:5

Mid-week #6 – Psalm 23:6

Prayer in times of temptation: *Almighty and everlasting God, through Your Son You have promised us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Govern our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that in our daily need, and especially in all time of temptation, we may seek Your help and, by a true and lively faith in Your Word, obtain all that You have promised; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Prayer for aid against temptation: *O God, You justify the ungodly and desire not the death of a sinner. Graciously assist us by Your heavenly aid and evermore shield us with Your protection that no temptation may separate us from Your love in Christ Jesus, Your Son, our Lord.*

Sources:

Lectionary summary from the LCMS Commission on Worship

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