

# Sunday, February 23, 2020

Transfiguration of Our Lord / Last Sunday after Epiphany, Year A



## ***Introduction***

*Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.*

## Gathering Hymn – ELW 531 - The Feast Is Ready (The trumpets sound)

**The trumpets sound, the angels sing  
The feast is ready to begin  
The gates of heaven are open wide  
And Jesus welcomes you inside**

*Refrain: Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight  
Come and revel in heaven's love and light  
Take your place at the table of the King  
The feast is ready to begin  
The feast is ready to begin*

**Tables are laden with good things  
O taste the peace and joy he brings  
He'll fill you up with love divine  
He'll turn your water into wine *Refrain***

**The hungry heart he satisfies  
Offers the poor his paradise  
Now hear all heaven and earth applaud  
The amazing goodness of the Lord *Refrain***

### **Prayer of the Day**

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**

<sup>12</sup>The 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." <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To 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."

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The 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. <sup>17</sup>Now 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. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm: Psalm 99**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

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

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.**

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

<sup>4</sup>**O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

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

<sup>6</sup>**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,**

<sup>7</sup>you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;  
they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

<sup>8</sup>**O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

<sup>9</sup>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 Peter 1:16-21**

<sup>16</sup>For 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. <sup>17</sup>For 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." <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So 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. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

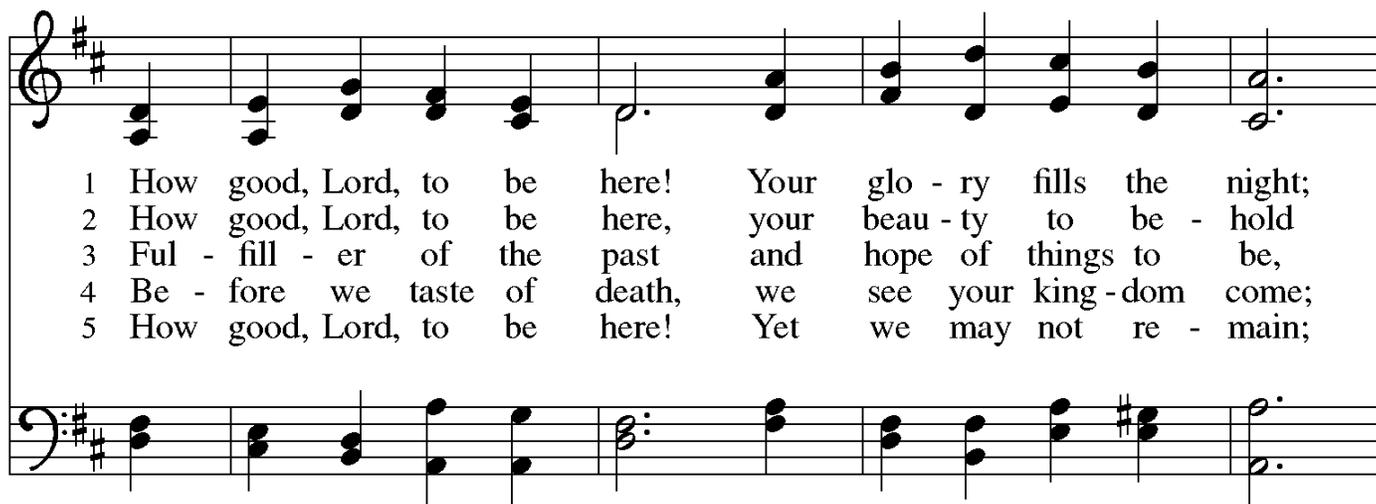
## **Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9**

The holy Gospel according to Matthew the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

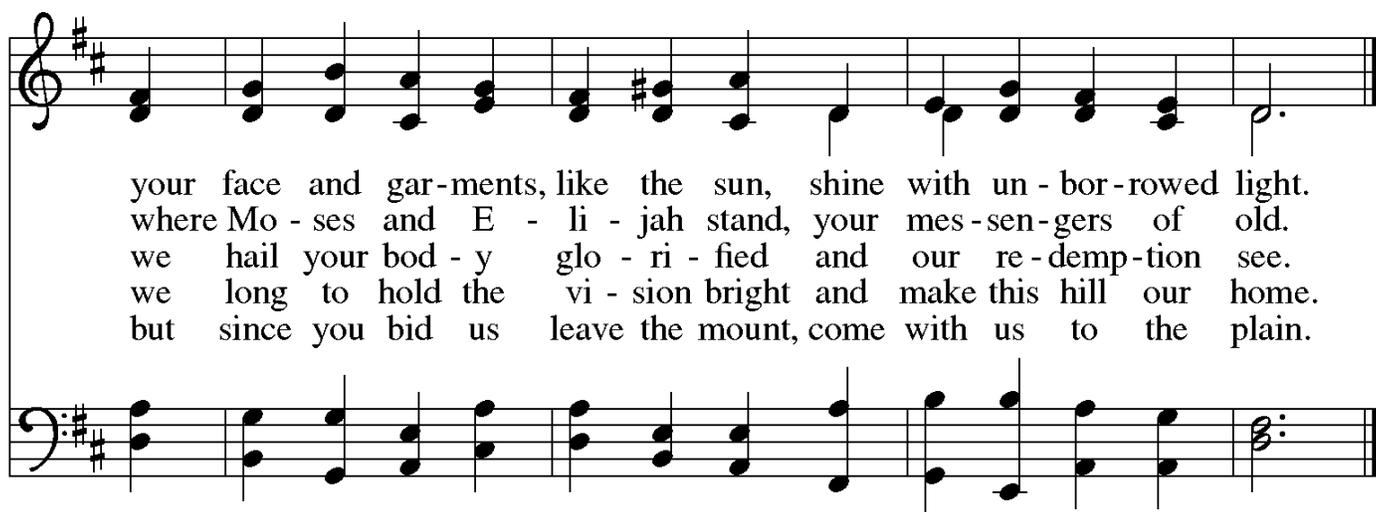
<sup>1</sup>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then 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." <sup>5</sup>While 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!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. <sup>9</sup>As 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 our Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



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;

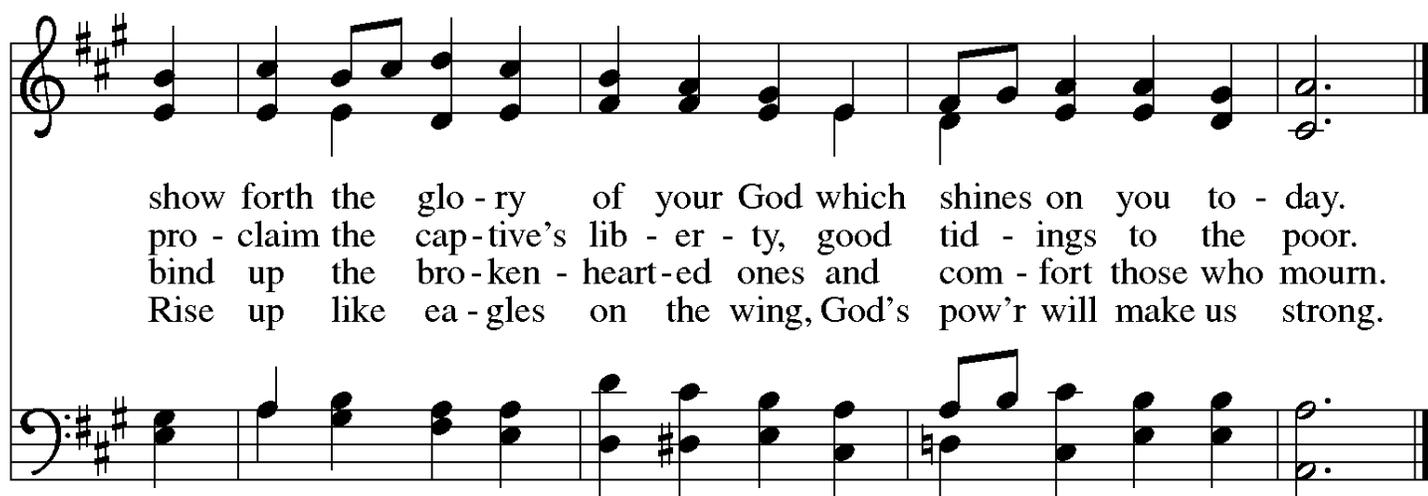


your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
but since you bid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

## Arise, Your Light Has Come!



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

### Upcoming Commemorations

#### **Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156**

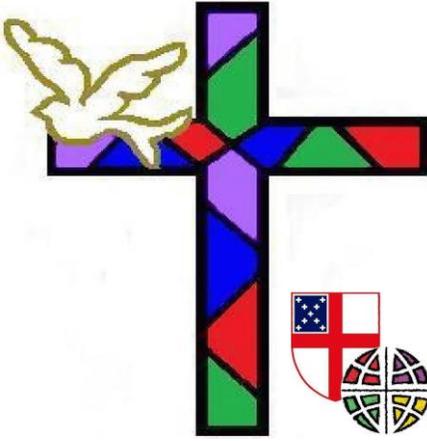
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Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.

#### **Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921**

**Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.



***Peace in Christ Church***  
*An Episcopal-Lutheran Ministry*  
*P.O. Box 2098/236 Tabor St.*  
*Elizabeth, CO*  
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*Sharing God's love, grace, and mercy  
with ourselves, our neighbors, and all of God's creation through worship, fellowship, education,  
prayer, stewardship, invitation, and service.*

**The Reverend Alena Lamirato Pastor/ Rector**  
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*Feel free to call for a visit at any time.*  
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[www.peaceinchristelm.org](http://www.peaceinchristelm.org)

**Birthdays:**

25 – Alicia  
26 – Steve Wood

**Anniversaries:**

**Baptismal Anniversaries:**

24 – Ed Owen  
27 – Van Mohlis

Flowers given by Alicia Handley in honor of her birthday

**This Week at Peace in Christ**

Tuesday 6:30pm – Men's Bible Study

**Ash Wednesday 7pm Worship**

Thursday 6:30pm – Women's Bible Study