



The Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 23, 2020
Grace Lutheran Church

Prelude

Entrance Hymn

316

Greeting

P: In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

A: Arise, shine, for our Light has come!

C: And the glory of the Lord has come upon us.

A: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

C: The light no darkness can overcome.

A: He comes to us

C: We who are not wise.

A: He comes to us

C: We who are not powerful

A: Arise, shine, for our Light has come!

C: And the glory of the Lord has come upon us.

Hymn of Praise

318

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray:

C: Almighty God, on this day you revealed your glory and the glory of your Son, Jesus, in the presence of just three disciples. Send your Spirit upon all of us now, that by gathering in the

presence of your Word, around the table of your Meal, and in the fellowship of worshipping with your many faithful disciples, we will each experience the glory of your presence among us and be encouraged and inspired to follow in The Way you teach us to go. In the name of the Transfigured One we pray. Amen.

First Lesson

Exodus 24:12-18

After God's people had left Egypt, God was leading them through the wilderness to the promised land. As they came close to one of the mountains in the wilderness God said to Moses: "Come up to me on the mountain and stay there. I want to give you some stone tables that have my Law and Commandments written on them. You will use these to teach my Commandments to my people. So, Moses got up and took his assistant, Joshua, and went up the mountain of God. Now before Moses left, he said to the elders of the people, "You all need to stay and wait for us to return. My other assistants, Aaron and Hur, will stay with you so that if you have an argument You cannot settle, you can go to them and they will decide who is right. Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of God came down and stayed on Mount Sinai and the cloud covered it for six days. To God's people waiting at the base of the mountain, the sight of the Glory of God was like a huge fire on the top of the mountain. On the seventh day God called to Moses from out of the cloud. Moses came into the midst of the cloud when he went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm **Psalm 99**



Pro - claim the great - ness of the LORD;



wor - ship up - on God's ho - ly hill.

*The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!*

The Lord is great in Zion;

he is exalted over all the peoples.

*Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!*

**Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. R**

*Extol the Lord our God;
worship at his footstool. Holy is he!*

**Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.**

*He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.*

**O Lord our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

*Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy. R*

Second Lesson

2 Peter 1:1-20

I am Peter. I, and the other disciples, did not have to tell you stories that we made up when we were teaching you about our Lord Jesus to Christ. For, we had seen Christ with her own eyes. Christ received honor and glory from God, the Father, when God's voice spoke to Christ from the "Majestic Glory" saying, "This is my Son, I love him very much. I am very pleased with him." While I, and my fellow disciples, were with Christ on the holy mountain we heard this voice. And because we heard it with our own ears, we know that what the voice said is true. So, it will be best for all of you to listen carefully to our message as if it were a lamp shining in a dark place until "The Day" dawns and "The Morning Star" rises in your hearts.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Children's Sermon

Verse

Refrain (*sing twice*)



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.



1. When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way. Still, You're there right be-



side me. And no-thing will I fear As long as You are near;



Please be near me to the end. *(to refrain)*



2. I will not for-get Your love for me and yet, My heart for-ev-er is



wan-der-ing. Je-sus be my guide, And hold me to Your side, And



I will love you to the end. *(to refrain)*

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the seventeenth Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration

Now after six days, Jesus led Peter and James and his brother John up a high mountain by themselves. And Jesus was transfigured before them, his face shining like the sun, and his clothes becoming bright as the light. And behold, the *disciples* saw Moses and Elijah talking with *Jesus*. In response to all of this, Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here! If you *would like me to*, I will *build* three tabernacles here, one for you *abide with us in*, one for Moses *to abide with us in*, and one for Elijah *to abide with us in*."

While *Peter* was still speaking, behold, a bright shining cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; I am very pleased with him. Keep listening to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they *threw themselves on the ground in humility and honor* and were extremely terrified.

And Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." The *disciples* lifted up their eyes to him, seeing no one, except Jesus, alone.

As *Jesus and the disciples* were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them to "tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

P: *The Gospel of our Lord!*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

815

Apostles Creed

page 105

Prayers of the Church

Passing of the Peace

Offering

Offertory

691

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray:

C: Accept, O Lord, these gifts that we bring in gratitude this day; offerings from the abundant blessings we have received. May they be pleasing in your sight, that you will continue to look kindly on us and our needs, and that they may serve the need of manifesting your Kingdom in this age. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

page 144

The Lord's Prayer
Distribution Hymns
Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

Benediction
Recessional

1. Climb with Christ the my - stic moun - tain
2. Hear Him speak with an - cient pro - phets,
3. Fol - low Christ in - to the val - ley;
4. Climb, at last, an - oth - er moun - tain

veiled by clouds yet bathed in light.
bear - ers of God's liv - ing Word.
feel, with Him, a fath - er's pain;
where, con - demned he goes to die. —

Join di - sci - ples bowed in won - der
Mo - ses and E - li - jah greet Him
cry - ing for his son, af - flict - ed
Watch while sol - diers cru - ci - fy Him;

blind - ed by his gar - ment bright.
as their peo - ple's pro - mised Lord. —
"You can make him whole a - gain!"
see the dark - end, sun - less sky. —

What the source of such a ra - diance?
 Then an - oth - er voice pro - claims him;
 Be for Christ His pre - sent bo - dy;
 There re - mem - ber Truth he taught us:

Shin - ing here is Light from Light!
 "My own Son; at - tend His word!"
 heal - ing still the peo - ple's pain.
 "Who would live, with me must die!"

Dismissal

FLU SEASON, AN OUTBREAK OF RSV and the potential impact of the Coronavirus make us all aware and more cautious about sharing our germs, bacteria and viruses. During this time of increased vulnerability, Grace will take three precautionary measures to reduce the risk of sharing things with each other that we do not wish to share while continuing to share together the things that are important to us.

- ❖ So, we will continue the Passing of the Peace, but please refrain from handshakes and hugs by making the “V” peace-sign to each other instead.
- ❖ Communion will return to being served at the rail so we may choose to receive the wine in individual glasses rather than by

Intinction - the Common Cup will continue to be an option.

- ❖ Finally, hand sanitizer is easily available for everyone to use as you enter worship.

Of course, it is also very helpful if everyone follows the usual habits of good hygiene: cough/sneeze into your arm, not your hand; wash your hands frequently - saying the “A, B, C’s” all the way through while soaping up; refrain from joining in group activities if you are feeling Flu symptoms.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES – This coming Wednesday, February 26th, we invite you to join us at either 12:00p.m. or 7:30 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY BLOOD DRIVE – All eligible donors are encouraged to donate blood this Wednesday between 1:30pm-7:30 pm during Grace’s annual Ash Wednesday Blood Drive. The winter is always a critical time of year for donations, as blood banks are dangerously low. Walk-ins are always welcome!

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SOUP & SANDWICH & SERVICE begin on March 4th. Bring a sandwich to enjoy with a soup provided by one of Grace’s Ministry Committees. Then stay to center yourself in the season with the quietly contemplative music of the French Christian community of “Taize.” Each week readings will focus on a different *Fruit of the Spirit* : *Self Control, Patience, Joy, Gentleness and love*. We hope you will join us.

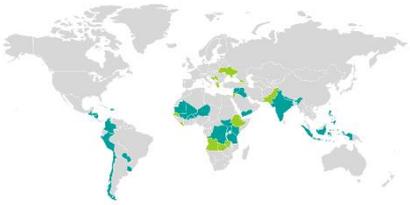
FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES – A new First Communion Class will be getting underway on Sunday, March 8th in Pastor Chris’ office at 12:15 pm. Class will continue on the 15th and 22nd. Anyone interested in participating, please speak with Pastor Chris.

MONTHLY YOUTH DINNER GATHERING – we will be gathering on Sunday, March 8th at 6:00pm for our monthly dinner gathering. Pastor Chris is also looking for a parent volunteer to help coordinate the meal. If you are able to assist, please contact Pastor Chris at 914-223-0995. Please also RSVP as soon as possible so that we can make sure to have enough food.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – will be held on Sunday March 15th after each service with the only agenda items being an extension of call to Doug Jenkins to become a synodical deacon as well as reinstatement from on-leave from call for our other 3 deacons: Peg Lindblom, Carol Straub & Chuck Rogler. We hope you will plan on staying after worship for one of these important meetings in support of our congregation members.

A Season of Hope

Grace's Lenten Lutheran World Relief 40 "Personal Care Kit" Collection



● Quilt and Kits of Care distributions.

● Long-term development project and/or emergency response.

"Cleanliness may not actually be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry.

Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared,

vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty."

LWR Website



Every Lent Grace participates in a Lutheran World Relief campaign to assist those in need around the world. This year we will be collecting different "Personal Care Kit" items on each Sunday during Lent. Our goal is to gather after each service on Easter Sunday to assemble a total of 200 Personal Care Kits. Please bring an item each Lenten Sunday and place it in the box as you enter the Sanctuary. The boxes will be brought forward as part of our congregation's offering each Sunday. Here is the schedule for items to bring:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| March 1 | Light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color |
| March 8 | Three 2 bars of Soap 8 to 9 oz. any brand, in original wrapping |
| March 15 | Adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging |
| March 22 | A Sturdy comb, remove packaging |
| March 29 | metal nail clippers (attached file optional) |
| April 12st - | Personal Care Kit Assembly after each service in the Fellowship Hall on EASTER SUNDAY! Each kit takes only a few minutes to assemble. |

2019 End-of-Year Stewardship Update

First, thank you! Thank you for the generous and faithful support of everything from Altar Guild to Worship, from Bible Studies to Vacation Bible School, from Breakfast Runs to Seasoned Citizen's Luncheons – it all happens because of each of us responding with the blessings in our lives that we know come from our loving and gracious God! Now, a few numbers from 2019:

11
Baptisms

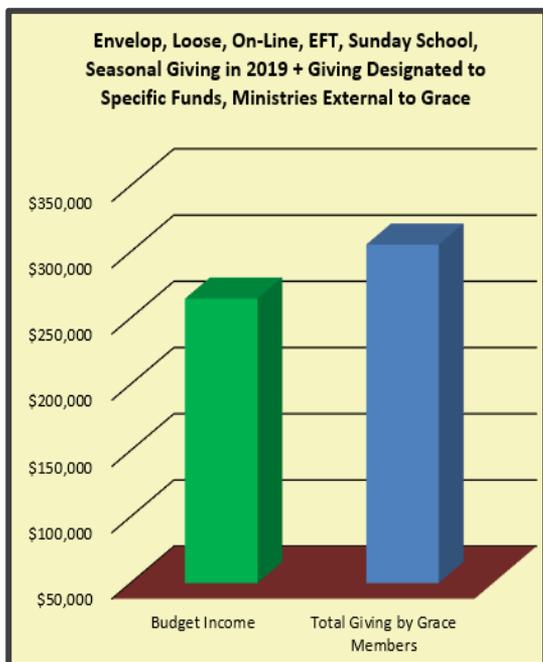
21
1st
Communion

7
Confirmations

7
Weddings

26
Funerals

733
Ave Monthly At-
tendance in 2020



Considering all sources of income, Grace could still be understood to have come up \$3,947 short of our income meeting our expenses in 2019. However, when our designated giving is included in the picture, our giving was \$40,783 above our expenses. Clearly, Grace is a generous congregation committed to its ministry, programs and more. In 2019 the Stewardship Committee focused on keeping Grace informed more frequently about our

financial health and the general health of our overall stewardship of time and energy. What you have to offer may seem less than what others have to give. Instead of comparing our gifts to others, God measures only the love with which we give them. If you would like to be part of the Stewardship Committee or have questions about the work of the committee, please speak with Kathy Slater, the



son.

Please make your tax-deductible donation to support Grace Lutheran and our many faithful ministries using this QR code!

Upcoming Events at Grace

Today, Sunday February 23rd

- ❖ Worship, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- ❖ Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
- ❖ Confirmation Class, 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
- ❖ Part III of *Racing Extinction* movie presentation, 12:15 p.m.

Monday, February 24th

- ❖ Widowed Support Group, 9:30 a.m.
- ❖ Confirmation Class, 4:30 p.m.
- ❖ Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 25th

- ❖ Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
- ❖ Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 26th Ash Wednesday

- ❖ Ash Wednesday Worship Service, 12:00 p.m.
- ❖ Ash Wednesday Blood Drive, 1:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Ash Wednesday Worship Service, 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 27th

- ❖ Bible Study, 11:00 a.m.

Next Sunday, March 1st

- ❖ Worship, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- ❖ Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
- Confirmation Class, 9:45 a.m.- 10:45 a.m.

LENT'S **5** HABITS OF
HIGHLY
EFFECTIVE
CHRISTIANS

March 1

Gather with God's People

March 8

Encounter God's Word

March 15

Devotion to Prayer

March 22

Take the Gospel Perspective

March 29

Commitment to Compassion

Grace Lutheran Church

Christopher Chantelau, *Pastor* • Becki Advocate, *Dir. of Music*
Kristen Halderman, *Parish Administrator* • Vinnie Tipa, *Sexton*
Rev. Dr. Timothy Kennedy, *Pastor Emeritus*

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