

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



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

MYSTERY REVEALED:  
THE GLORY OF THE LORD IS REVEALED FOR US  
*Transfiguration Sunday*

*February 14, 2021*

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. For worshippers joining us in person, we are happy you are here. If you have any questions, just ask an usher or other volunteer.

If you are worshipping online, we would love to see just what kind of impact our worship services are making. Please fill out our online Connect Card to let us know where you're worshipping from and how we might continue to serve you. You can find a link at [www.stpaulswr.org/watch](http://www.stpaulswr.org/watch). You can also contact us with any questions or prayer requests via email or phone ([churchoffice@stpaulswr.org](mailto:churchoffice@stpaulswr.org) or 715-421-3634).

## **SPECIAL GUIDELINES DURING THE PANDEMIC**

- † **Please practice social distancing whenever possible.** Keep close personal interactions to a minimum, especially when inside the building. Please feel free to worship from the Welcome Center, if you feel uncomfortable with the number of people in the sanctuary.
- † **Please practice good hygiene.** Masks, hand sanitizer, and kleenex are available in the Welcome Center. Our restrooms are located along the hallway on the west side of the worship space.
- † **Large print service folders, hearing devices, and printouts of the bible readings and hymns** are available on the Information Booth in the Welcome Center, if you need them.
- † **Your offering and connect card** can be placed in the slots on the top of the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If you have a smartphone, you can fill out the online connect card. Empty offering plates will be brought forward and placed on the altar to symbolize our sacrifice to God.
- † **Children's bulletins** can be picked up at the Information Booth in the Welcome Center. If your children become fussy, you can quiet them in the Welcome Center. The Children's Message will still take place. However, the children will not be invited forward. Please keep them with you in your pew.

† **Please wait for the ushers to dismiss you.** Following post-service announcements, pastor(s) will leave down the side aisles and head outside to greet you. Ushers will dismiss worshipers from the back moving forward; and down the center aisle, as well as the side aisles. This is to minimize personal contact. Please take this service folder with you and dispose of it properly.

## SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY



The season of Jesus revealing his mysterious glory is coming to a close. We stand at the threshold of the season of his ultimate humiliation. But before we go down to the valley of the shadow of death, Jesus gives us a glimpse of the glory which he hid so carefully even while he was revealing it through his miracles and teachings. Lent is coming; hang on to the glory that soon will be covered in shame and washed with blood!

The liturgical color<sup>1</sup> for this Sunday is white, which signifies the glory which Jesus shows on the mount of Transfiguration.

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<sup>1</sup> The liturgical color is found on the pastor's stole and the piece of cloth hanging from the pulpit.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

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*Service of the Word draws the believer's attention to the proclamation of the Gospel in the Word of God.*

## WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

*O Splendor of God's Glory Bright | CW 586  
Verse 1-All; 2-Men; 3-Women; 4-Song Leaders; 5-All*

*Please stand.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister (M): The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation (C): And also with you.**

*Coming into the presence of God is no small thing; we will see in today's Gospel reading what kind of fear God's presence can produce, especially when we realize how sinful we are.*

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you the strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C:

*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

*Song Leaders will sing the verses; All sing the refrain.*

Song Leaders - Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me

All:   
Shine, Je - sus, shine! — Fill this land with the Fa - ther's glor - y

<sup>5</sup>   
Blaze, Spir - it blaze! — Set our hearts on fire.

<sup>9</sup>   
Flow, riv - er flow! — Flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.

<sup>13</sup>   
Send forth your Word, — Lord, and let there be light!

Song Leaders - As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display your likeness.  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me

**Refrain**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, before the suffering and death of your one and only Son, you revealed his glory on the holy mountain. Grant that we who bear his cross on earth may behold by faith the light of his heavenly glory and so be changed into his likeness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## The Word

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### FIRST LESSON

2 Kings 2:1-12a

*The glorious LORD spoke with Elijah, who was taken into heaven.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 148 | *The People's Psalter*

*Refrain - All; Verses - Song Leaders*

**Refrain**

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Lord!

Song Leaders: Let the whole creation cry,  
"Glory to the Lord on high."  
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing.  
"God is our eternal King."

**All: Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

Song Leaders: Men and women, young and old,  
Raise the anthem manifold;  
Join with children's songs of praise,  
Worship God through length of days.

**All: Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

Song Leaders: Praise God, all you hosts above,  
Ever shining forth in love;  
Sun and moon, uplift your voice;  
Night and stars, in God rejoice!

**All: Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

Song Leaders: From the north to southern pole  
Let the mighty chorus roll;  
"Holy, holy, holy One,  
Glory be to God alone!"

**All: Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

## SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 4:3-7

*The glory of Christ shines through us.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love."

**C: "Listen to him." Alleluia.** (Mark 9:7b)

*Please stand.*

## GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

*The glory of Jesus is unlike anything that has been revealed.*

*After the reading, the announcement is made:*

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*Please keep children with you in the pews.*

*We hold onto this aspect of the service to remind ourselves and others that God's Word is meant to be learned and understood by people of all ages.*

## **HYMN**

*How Good, Lord, to Be Here | CW 95  
Verse 1-All; 2-Men; 3-Women; 4-Song Leaders; 5-All*

## **SERMON**

**God's Great Glory Shines**

*Please stand.*

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **THANK OFFERING**

*St. Paul's members offer their first and their best to their Savior in order to support the sharing of the Gospel through our church and our worldwide church body, the WELS. Our guests do not need to feel obligated to participate.*

*If the gospel message has moved you to give and you would like an electronic option, you can scan this QR code with your mobile phone. It will connect you with our website's giving page.*



## **WELS CONNECTION VIDEO**

*Christian Aid and Relief*

*Please stand.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

M: We praise you, O Father, for the precious gift of your Savior and for his glorious transfiguration on the holy mountain.

**C: Give us firm resolve to listen to your Son, eager readiness to believe his promises, and joyful willingness to obey his commandments.**

M: By the sign of Moses and Elijah, you show us that those who die in faith are blessed, for they know the power of Christ's resurrection and have been "changed from glory to glory."

**C: Lead us to trust that your promises are reliable and true, rather than empty myths and stories.**

M: O God and Father, let your Holy Spirit find a dwelling in our poor bodies and transform our weak, sinful lives into the radiance of goodness, purity, and righteousness. Transform our minds, our understanding, our judgments, yes, our entire being to reflect the mind of Christ. Take our sickness and pain, our disappointments and despair, our sorrows and mourning, our pride and anger, our selfishness and envy, our hate and fear: take all these and transform them by the healing touch of Jesus.

**C: In their place, give us noble impulses, pure motives, kind thoughts, constructive deeds, bold courage and true faith.**

*Special prayer and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Look on your Church, O Lord, here and in every place, and grant that we and all who bear the name of Christ may daily offer up to you the acceptable sacrifices of repentance, thanksgiving, and loving obedience.

**C: Hear our prayers, and by your mercy, grant our petitions for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*God encourages Christians to pray for many people and circumstances (1 Timothy 2:1-4). Part of the reason this prayer is "of the Church" is that it often makes different petitions on behalf of those in this congregation, but also for others out in the world.*

Be seated.

HYMN

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain | CW 712  
Verse 1- Song Leaders; 2-All; 3-Men; 4-Women; 5-All



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun-tain Where, with Pe - ter,  
2 What do you want us to see there That your close com -  
3 What do you want us to hear there That your dear dis -  
4 Take us to that oth - er moun-tain Where we see you  
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, Ris - en and as -



James, and John, We are daz - zled by your glo - ry,  
pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there  
ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en  
glo - ri - fied, Where you shout - ed, "It is fin - ished!"  
cend - ed Lord, Can - not help but tell the sto - ry,



Light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us  
Fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like  
Says of the in - car - nate Word: "Lis - ten, lis - ten,  
Where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -  
All that we have seen and heard, Say with Pe - ter,



for the night By the vi - sion of that sight.  
ours you go, Matched to meet our dead - liest foe.  
ev - 'ry - one; This is my be - lov - ed Son!"  
tu - ri - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"  
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

*Please stand.*

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**M:** Let us pray together.

**C:** **O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## **CLOSING HYMN**

*Down from the Mount of Glory | CW 97  
Verse 1-All; 2-Men; 3-Women; 4-Song Leaders; 5-All*

*This hymn serves as a beautiful lead-in to Lent.  
Note the comparison of the Mount of Transfiguration with Mount Calvary. They appear to be drastically different but, at the same time, they accomplish the same purpose: both show that Jesus is God's Son and our Savior. Let us go from Mount to Mount then as we enter into the season of Lent!*



# TAKE HOME QUESTIONS

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1. Moses and Elijah appear on the mountain with Jesus during the Transfiguration. Moses was the greatest teacher of the law, and Elijah was the greatest preacher of repentance. For what reasons, then, might they have been the ones to appear and speak with Jesus?
2. In Mark 9:9 Jesus tells the disciples not to share what they saw until after the resurrection. Why might Jesus have said that?
3. The timing of the transfiguration is very telling. Shortly after this Jesus would enter Jerusalem where he would be put on trial, tortured, and killed. Why would this event have been especially comforting for Peter, James, and John considering what was coming next?
4. In 2 Corinthians 4:6 Paul quotes God saying, "Light will shine out of darkness. (Let there be light.)" When did he say this? What does that add to Paul's point in verse 6?

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **THIS SUNDAY'S BIBLE STUDY**

### **The Theology of the Cross**

Join us in the cafeteria from 9:15 to 10:15 AM

For the google meet link, contact a pastor.

## **HELP DECORATE FOR LENT**

*Feb. 14 | 11:30 AM*

We will be decorating the sanctuary for Lent this Sunday after the 10:30 service. The biggest job will be setting up three crosses. Your help is appreciated.

## **COME FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**

*Feb. 17 | 4:00 & 6:30 PM*

We begin our Lenten journey this Wednesday with services at 4:00 & 6:30 PM. This will be the first in a series of midweek worship services focused on "The Places of the Passion." Pastors from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will lead our services at different times during the season, and our pastors will lead their services as well. Come explore the meaning, history, and spiritual inspiration associated with each location highlighted. If you do not attend in-person worship, the 4:00 service will be live-streamed each week and archived on our website and Facebook page.

## **HYGIENE DRIVE GETS UNDERWAY**

*Feb. 14-March 7*

Our collection box for the "Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive" has been set up in the Welcome Center. Your donations of cleaning products and personal care items will be donated to local charities. If you are taking the Three-Week-Challenge (donating different items each week of the drive), this week you should bring in paper & cleaning products, things like toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent and dish soap.

## **KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP**

*Feb. 27 | 10:00 AM*

If your child is old enough to begin kindergarten in the fall, you are invited to Kindergarten Roundup at St. Paul's Lutheran School. While our principal Mr. Melso shares information with the parents, your child will participate in some fun activities in the classroom with our kindergarten teacher, Miss Haugly. Mr. Melso will cover important issues about kindergarten explain the registration process, and address your questions and concerns. Please let us knowing if you will be attending by calling the school office (715-421-3634) or emailing Mr. Melso ([principal@stpaulswr.org](mailto:principal@stpaulswr.org)).

## **DONATE TO NLHS AUCTION**

Northland Lutheran High School's annual fundraiser, Together We Shine, will look a bit different this year. Their auction will be held online on Saturday, March 13. If you have items to contribute for the auction, please contact the NLHS office at 715-359-3400 or [nlhsoffice@nlhs.org](mailto:nlhsoffice@nlhs.org). On Sunday, March 14, they will hold a band concert which you may listen to on the radio while "carhops" serve you soup in your car! Auction winners can also pick up their items that day. Keep watch for more details.

## **TUNE UP YOUR MARRIAGE THIS VALENTINE'S DAY**

Marriages need maintenance to avoid breakdowns in love, communication, kindness, and patience. "Marriage Maintenance" is a series of three online Bible studies to help couples as they deal with common issues that wear and tear. Each study is introduced with a short lead-in video that sets up the topic followed by an activity to put it into practice. You can find the materials at [welscongregationalservices.net/marriage-maintenance](http://welscongregationalservices.net/marriage-maintenance).

Once you have tuned up your marriage, keep it in shape with weekly "Marriage Moments." These short 2-minute videos highlight one Biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Couples may subscribe to receive the videos in a weekly e-mail. By subscribing at [welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments](http://welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments).

## **TIME TO APPLY FOR 3K & 4K!**

It is time to reserve your spot in our 2021-2022 preschool program here at St. Paul's. Just click on the "Preschool Application for Enrollment" link [0p-\[/on](#) our website ([stpaulswr.org/school](http://stpaulswr.org/school)) to sign up and reserve a spot for your child. We do tend to fill up quickly, and applications will be reviewed by our board of education on a first-come, first-served basis. Remember that your child needs to be 3 years old by Sept. 1st for 3K and 4 years old by Sept. 1st for 4K. Children must be toilet trained to attend preschool. For more information about tuition and wrap-around child care please contact Director Carole Melso at [littlelambs@stpaulswr.org](mailto:littlelambs@stpaulswr.org) or 715-421-3634 ext. 1119.

## **ATTENDANCE & OFFERING REPORT**

Last Week's Attendance: 134

From July 1, 2020 to February 5, 2021

Actual ministry income: \$611,718

Actual cost of ministry: \$618,126

Mortgage balance: \$1,294,710



Ash Wednesday Worship  
Feb. 17  
4:00 & 6:30 PM

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Resource Center
	10:30 AM	Worship
	<b>11:30 AM</b>	<b>Decorating for Lent</b>
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball
<b>MONDAY</b>	11:00 AM	Worship for at-risk individuals
<b>TUESDAY</b>	6:45 AM	Men's Bible Study at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	9:45 AM	Women Walking in the Word in the Resource Center
	2:30 PM	Willing Workers in the Dining Room
	4:30 PM	Choir Practice in the balcony
	6:30 PM	Leadership Council in the Resource Center
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	8:55 AM	Chapel Service
	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Worship Service</b>
	5:30 PM	Handbells in the balcony
	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Worship Service</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	1:00 PM	Newsletter Assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
	6:00 PM	Men's Devotional Basketball in the gym
	6:30 PM	Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Resource Center
<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:00 AM	Worship
	9:15 AM	Bible Study in the cafeteria
	9:15 AM	Catechism Class in the Resource Center
	10:30 AM	Worship
	2:00 PM	Adult Co-ed Volleyball





*www.stpaulswr.org*

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