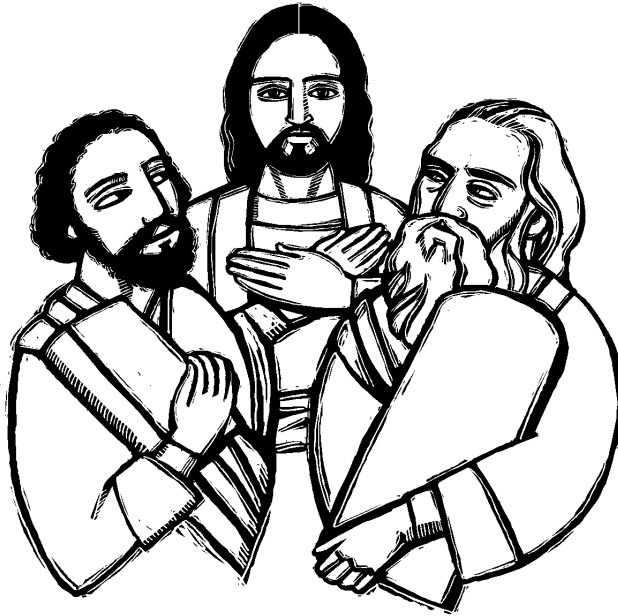


WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



**And he was transfigured before
them, and his face shone like
the sun, and his clothes
became dazzling white.**

Matthew 17:2, NRSV

Identity Revealed: Jesus Is the Son of God in Glory

Last Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration

February 15, 2026



Welcome To Worship

If you are a visitor to our church, we extend you a warm welcome. We are happy you are here. Please fill out a Connect Card to let us know how we might continue to serve you.

It's encouraging to see parents bring their families to worship the Lord. If your child becomes restless, you can use the Family Room to calm them. Quiet bags and children's bulletins are also available to keep little ones busy. Restrooms are located in the hallways along either side of the worship space. For those with special needs, large print copies of the service folder and listening devices are available from the ushers. One of our ushers can help you find the restrooms or family room and answer any other questions.

Service Notes For This Service



Jesus was a real human being, and he looked like it when he taught his disciples. But one day atop a high mountain, Jesus gave his disciples a glimpse of his glory as the Son of God. After he came down from the mountain, Jesus went to Jerusalem to suffer and die. It is good for us to view Jesus in glory on the mountain. It prepares us for Lent, and it prepares us for life.

Today's service includes a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. For personal preparation, consider using the Questions for Examination on page 8 of this service folder or Christian Questions on page 295 of the blue hymnal.

Those Serving in Worship

Pastor Peter Plagenz; Organist: Sue Kulhanek; Preservice Music: Terri Dobratz; Song Leader: Rachel Provost

Acknowledgements

Setting Three from Christian Worship. Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) © 2017 Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

The Service

Welcome

Hymn

390 *Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain*

The song leader will sing throughout; please join as you feel comfortable.

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Glory to God in the Highest'. The first staff is a vocal line in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time, consisting of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5. The second staff is a piano accompaniment line, also in G major and 4/4 time, with a bass line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, G2, A2, B2, C3, and a treble line of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5. The lyrics 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to' are written below the second staff. The third staff is another vocal line in G major and 4/4 time, with a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note C5. The lyrics 'God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,' are written below the third staff.

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

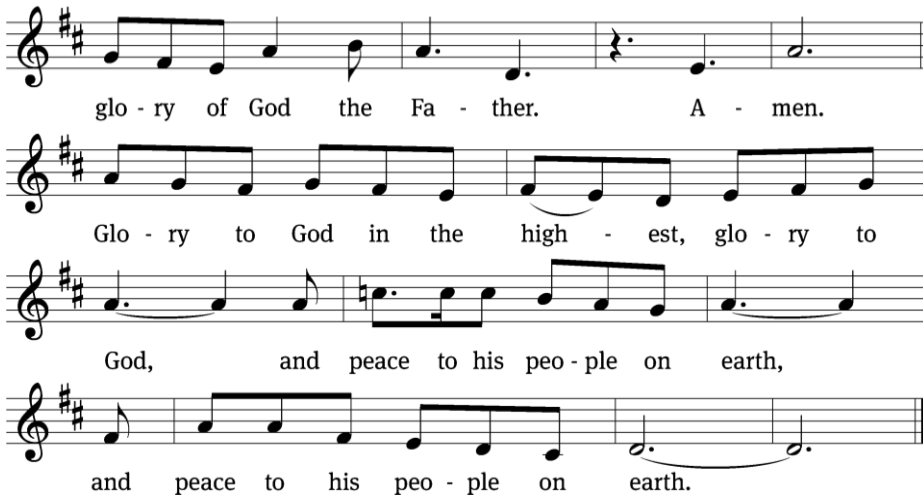
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus

Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to

God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman; © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Exodus 24:9–18

On Mount Sinai, Moses saw the glory of the Lord's law. On the Mount of Transfiguration, Moses would see the glory of the Lord's gospel.

⁹Then Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up. ¹⁰They saw the God of Israel. Under his feet they saw what looked like a pavement of sapphire as clear as the sky. ¹¹The LORD did not lay his hand on the dignitaries of the people of Israel. They gazed at God, and they ate and drank.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain. Wait there, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commands that I have written, so that you can teach them.”

¹³Moses set out with his assistant Joshua and went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴He said to the elders, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, here are Aaron and Hur. They will be with you. Whoever is involved in a dispute can go to them.”

¹⁵Moses went up onto the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The Glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered the mountain for six days. On the seventh day the LORD called to Moses out of the middle of the cloud. ¹⁷The appearance of the Glory of the LORD looked like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered into the middle of the cloud and climbed up the mountain. Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16–21

As an eyewitness to the majesty and glory of Jesus, St. Peter testifies to the reliability of the Christian faith.

¹⁶To be sure, we were not following cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the powerful appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father, when the voice came to him from within the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We heard this voice, which came out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹We also have the completely reliable prophetic word. You do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the Morning Star rises in your hearts, ²⁰since we know this above all else: No prophecy of Scripture comes about from someone's own interpretation. ²¹In fact, no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were being carried along by the Holy Spirit. (EHV®)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 9:7

Alleluia! A cloud covered them, and a voice came from the cloud:
“This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!” Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 17:1–9

The transfiguration of our Lord.

¹Six days later Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John the brother of James; and he led them up onto a high mountain by themselves. ²There he was transfigured in front of them. His face was shining like the sun. His clothing became as white as the light. ³Just then, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus.

⁴Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, I will make three shelters here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. Just then, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him.”

⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell face down and were terrified. ⁷Jesus approached and as he touched them, he said, “Get up, and do not be afraid.” ⁸When they opened their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Do not tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.” (EHV®)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

388 Down from the Mount of Glory

Sermon

Stand

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

Special Prayers This Week

- † For the family of Georgene Provost, who passed away.
- † For Mike Anderson and his family. Mike's sister, Glenda Minton, passed away.
- †
- †
- †

Prayer of the Church

Today, the prayer will be offered by individual petitions. Each petition will end this way:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The final petition will end this way:

...who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Connect Card and Offering

Please take a moment to fill out a Connect Card. After a few moments, the ushers will come forward to collect the offering. You may place your Connect Card and any offering you brought in the plate as it is passed. Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. 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.



Musical Offering

Christ Begins

Questions for Examination

- † Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of forgiveness?
- † Do I believe that Jesus died on the cross to win forgiveness for me?
- † Do I believe that Jesus offers his true body and blood with the bread and wine in this sacrament?
- † Do I believe this sacrament strengthens my faith and strengthens me to live a God-pleasing life?
- † Am I a member of a church that belongs to the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) or Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS)?
- † If you answered "no" to any of these questions, please hold off on communing with us today. Following worship, the pastor would be happy to explain why we ask you to do this.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 199

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts, heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my T body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my T blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God

CW 202



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us, grant us peace.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman; Tune: © 2010 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719903

Be seated

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

389 *How Good, Lord, to Be Here*
522 *Beautiful Savior*

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

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 T give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn

977 Alleluia, Song of Triumph

The song leader will sing throughout; please join as you feel comfortable.



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of tri - umph, sound of joy that
2 Al - le - lu - ia we are sing - ing, voic - ing hymns in
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while
4 May our hymns be filled with long - ing— hear us, Ho - ly



can - not die; al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
pure ac - cord, with Christ's ho - ly Church u - nit - ed,
here be - low; al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty— as we look to your blest East - er,



ev - er dear to choirs on high; saints a - dorned in
jus - ti - fied, re - deemed, re - stored, and with all his
make us for a while for - go. For the sol - emn
here, and then e - ter - nal - ly, when we shall once



robes of glo - ry join the great an - gel - ic cry.
faith - ful peo - ple raise our songs to praise the Lord.
time is com - ing when our tears for sin must flow.
more be sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly!

Text: Latin, c. 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Tune: John Goss, 1800–1880; Text and tune: Public domain

In the season of Lent, the Church sets aside the word Alleluia—a joyful Hebrew expression meaning “Praise the LORD.” As we enter this penitential season, our worship takes on a quieter, more reflective tone as we focus on Christ’s suffering and our need for repentance. Though we refrain from singing Alleluia for a time, we do so in eager anticipation, knowing that at Easter the Church’s song of victory will ring out again: “Alleluia! The victory is won!”

Take Home Questions

Exodus 24:9-18

1. The elders of Israel see the God of Israel and yet are not destroyed. What things does this teach us about both God's holiness and his grace?
2. In what ways does the glory on Mount Sinai help us better understand what is happening at the Transfiguration?

2 Peter 1:16-21

3. Peter emphasizes that the apostles were eyewitnesses of Jesus' majesty. For what reasons is that important for our confidence in the gospel?
4. Peter says we have "the prophetic word made more certain." In what ways does the Word of God anchor us when we do not see visible glory?
5. For what reasons might Peter have needed the memory of the Transfiguration later in his ministry—especially as he faced suffering? In what ways can we use the account of the Transfiguration in our lives today?

Matthew 17:1-9

6. The Father says, "This is my Son... Listen to him." For what reasons is that command especially important as Jesus heads toward Jerusalem and the cross?
7. Peter wants to build shelters and stay. What things does that reveal about human nature? In what ways do we try to "stay on the mountain"?
8. Jesus tells the disciples not to speak of this until after the resurrection. For what reasons must glory be understood through the cross?

News & Announcements



This Sunday's Bible Study: We Glory in Our Union with God

Come to the Bible Study Room from 10:30-11:30 am

Lent Starts this Week

Feb. 18 | 4:00 & 6:30 pm

We will have two services on Wednesdays during Lent – at **4:00 & 6:30 pm**. The Ash Wednesday service includes imposition of ashes and communion.

Sisters on a Mission will be serving **a meal between the services** – from 5:00-6:00 pm. Your freewill offering will go to the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS), which supports home and world mission work in our synod. Check out the bulletin board in the Welcome Center to see where WELS is doing gospel work.

NLHS Strategic Ministry Meeting at St. Paul's

Feb. 24

Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) is hosting an interactive evening of discussion and collaboration at St. Paul's designed to add your voice to their Strategic Ministry Plan. Together, we will reflect on where NLHS has been, consider where God may be leading them, and explore how we can TOGETHER train leaders by following Christ. Come on Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm for this important and exciting step forward.

Come for Volleyball

Feb. 15

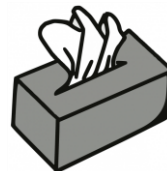
Co-ed Adult Volleyball starts this Sunday. Join in some rousing and friendly competition from 2:00-5:00 pm. Bring a friend or bring your spouse. The group will meet every Sunday, except Easter, through early May.

Scrip Update

In January, families using St. Paul's scrip earned a total of \$622.75 toward tuition. Another \$319.34 will to help pay security upgrades for our school. See the scrip table in the Welcome Center to see how you can use scrip.

Kleenex Needed

Can you share a box or two of Kleenex with our church? They are handy to have throughout the Welcome Center especially for funerals. You can leave your donations by the coffee pots as extra boxes are stored in those cupboards.



Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	10:30 AM	Bible Study in the Bible Study Room
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (Grades 3K-5 th)
	11:30 AM	Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Bible Study Room
	2:00 PM	Coed Volleyball in the Gym
Monday	1:30 PM	Spiritual Health Group in the chapel at Wisc Rapids Health Services
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice in the balcony
Tuesday	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
	5:30 PM	Board of Lutheran Education Meeting in the Resource Center
	6:30 PM	Leadership Council in the Resource Center
Wednesday	8:45 AM	School Chapel Service
	4:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service
	5:00 PM	Fellowship Meal in the Cafeteria
	6:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday	7:00 AM	Men's Small Group at From the Ground Up Coffee Shop
	1:00 pm	Newsletter assembly in the Volunteer Workroom
Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship
	10:30 AM	Bible Study in the Bible Study Room
	10:30 AM	Sunday School (Grades 3K-5 th)
	11:30 AM	Foundations of the Christian Faith in the Bible Study Room
	2:00 PM	Coed Volleyball in the Gym

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 19-20 No School - Teachers' Conference
- Feb. 24 NLHS Strategic Ministry Meeting at St. Paul's
- Feb. 28 Grade School Basketball Tournament at NLHS

Attendance Report

Last Week's Attendance: 208

Next Sunday

Theme: Exactly What I Need: A Champion

Readings: Genesis 3:1-15, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Feb. 18 at 4:00 & 6:30 PM

Supper served 5:00-6:00



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Pastor Peter Plagenz | 920-689-3036 | pastorplagenz@stpaulswr.org