



**St. James Lutheran Church
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer
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The Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 19, 2023

The Preservice Music (Bell Choir), The Call to Worship & Welcome

Opening Hymn 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here	<i>LSB 414</i>
Invocation	
Exhortation	<i>LSB 151</i>
Confession of Sins	<i>LSB 151</i>
Absolution	<i>LSB 151</i>
Kyrie	<i>LSB 152</i>
This Is the Feast	<i>LSB 155</i>
Salutation and Collect of the Day	<i>Transfiguration</i>

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 24:8–18*

And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.” Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.” Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 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. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 415 Jesus on the Mountain Peak

Epistle

2 Peter 1:16–21

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 were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Back cover of the hymnal

The Sermon Hymn: Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory *LSB 416*

Sermon (During the sermon, children who are ages 3 through grade 2 are invited to participate in KIDZ Time. Children can make their way to the back of the sanctuary where the KIDZ Time teacher is waiting. The children will return to the service following the sermon.)

Offering (Please sign the burgundy Friendship booklet and pass it to other people sitting in your pew. When completed, pass it back to the center aisle and be sure to greet the people next to you! Those sitting by the center aisle: please tear off the completed sheet and place it on the pew. Thank you!)

A Song: "Hymn of Heaven" (Phil Wickham)

Verse 1

How I long to breathe the air of Heaven
Where pain is gone and mercy fills the streets
To look upon the one who bled to save me
And walk with Him for all eternity

Chorus 1

There will be a day
When all will bow before Him
There will be a day
When death will be no more
Standing face to face
With He who died and rose again
Holy holy is the Lord

Verse 2

And ev'ry prayer we prayed in desperation
The songs of faith
We sang through doubt and fear
In the end we'll see that it was worth it
When He returns to wipe away our tears (Chorus)

Verse 3

And on that Day, we join the resurrection
And stand beside the heroes of the faith
With one voice a thousand generations
Sing worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Forever He shall reign

Chorus 2

So let it be today
We shout the hymn of Heaven
With angels and the Saints
We raise a mighty roar
Glory to our God
Who gave us life beyond the grave

Holy **Holy** is the Lord
Holy **Holy** is the Lord
Holy **Holy** is the Lord

CCLI Song # 7168994
Bill Johnson | Brian Johnson | Chris Davenport | Phil Wickham
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Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

A Hymn: O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair *LSB 413*

Announcements and Blessing

Preface *LSB 160*

Proper Preface (Full)

Sanctus *LSB 161*

Prayer of Thanksgiving *LSB 161*

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini *LSB 163*

Agnus Dei *LSB 163*

Distribution Hymn: "Ancient Words" (De Shazo)

Verse 1

Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Verse 2

Words of life words of hope
Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

Verse 3

Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ (Chorus)

Verse 4

Martyr's blood stains each page
They have died for this faith
Hear them cry through the years
Heed these words and hold them dear (Chorus)

Ending

We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart
O let the ancient words impart

CCLI Song # 2986399

Lynn DeShazo

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Thank the Lord
Post-Communion Collect
Benediction

LSB 164

LSB 166

Hymn to Depart: Alleluia, Song of Gladness (Sung to Picardy, LSB 621) Choir will sing first 3 verses

1 *Alleluia, song of gladness,
Voice of joy that cannot die;
Alleluia is the anthem
Ever raised by choirs on high;
In the house of God abiding
Thus they sing eternally.*

2 *Alleluia, thou resoundest,
True Jerusalem and free;
Alleluia, joyful mother,
All thy children sing with thee,
But by Babylon's sad waters
Mourning exiles now are we.*

3 *Alleluia cannot always
Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions
Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming
When our tears for sin must flow.*

4 *Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee,
Grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter
With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing
Alleluia joyfully.*

Text: Latin, c. 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Events of the Week: February 20 – Feb 26, 2023

Monday	No Monday Service
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Discovery Class
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. Darrell's Bible Class 5:30 p.m. Pancake Dinner 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir 7:15 p.m. Adult Choir
Friday	Pastor's Day off
Sunday	8:00 a.m. Gizmo on FB 9:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Bible study

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: February 5, 2023

General Fund	\$4835.00
Building Fund	\$0.00
ISJ Academy	\$500.00
Tessaro Ministry	\$45.00
Memorials	\$25.00
TOTAL	\$5413.00

Those Who Serve Today Feb. 19th.

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

Lector: Cherie Hood

Organist: Beth McKay

Deacons: Bryan Ensing / Craig Popma

Ushers: Dale / Grace Rosema / Orlin Bowman

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

February Altar Guild: Deb & Kelsey Butler

Those Who are Serving Next Week: Feb. 26th.

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

Lector: Marjie Weiss

Organist: Beth McKay

Deacons: Jerry Talen

Ushers: Jim / Nancy Spears, Caleb Butler

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and Marjie Weiss

February Altar Guild: Deb & Kelsey Butler

Announcements

What is Shrove Tuesday? Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi Gras (French for Fat Tuesday), is always the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Most people think of Fat Tuesday as a day of wild debauchery before the drudgery of Lent begins. However, this holiday has a much more pious history! The “shrove” of Shrove Tuesday is an old English way of saying Confession and Absolution. This is the most important feature of the holiday. We confess our sins on Shrove Tuesday as a way of getting ready for Lent. Once the distractions of sin are cleared from our lives, we are prepared to focus solely on the merits of Christ’s passion for the forty days of Lent. Another way that Christians prepare for Lent on Shrove Tuesday is by preparing for the Lenten fast. Fasting has always been used among Christians during special seasons of repentance such as Lent. Fasting helps us to remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return, and that man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. In centuries past the Lenten fast included abstaining from any rich or fatty foods. Because of this Shrove Tuesday became known also as Fat Tuesday, as this was the day Christians disposed of the fat, butter, and eggs in their homes which would otherwise spoil during the forty days of the Lenten fast. Not wanting these ingredients to go to waste, people would use them up by cooking feasts of high-fat foods. This

is where the great tradition of the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper originates! With these thoughts in mind, we will have a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Ash Wednesday PRIOR to the worship service. The Pancake dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. Following the meal we will “process” from the basement of the church to the sanctuary where we will begin the penitential season of Lent focusing our thoughts on Christ’s call for us to repent of our sin and on His passion. The Service will start at 7:00pm.

“Promised Treasures”: This Lenten season, we have a fresh opportunity to embrace God’s amazing love for us, His baptized children, in new ways. St. Paul clearly says that *“faith comes from hearing”* (Romans 10:17), but the Gospel is also communicated through the physical senses of sight, smell, touch, and taste. Jesus mentions that a good teacher not only brings out new treasures but reminds people of old and rich treasures as well (see Matthew 13:52). So each Sunday in Lent, we will take a weekly journey to concretely see, smell, touch, and taste a number of biblical elements. Just as Israel wandered through the wilderness under Moses for forty years, awaiting the Promised Land, we await heaven in the wilderness of this life. Life as exiles in the wilderness of this world is not easy and pain-free. In this vale of tears, we await our real home, the new promised land. Until we enter our eternal promised land, however, the Lord calls us to be His light in this dark world (see Colossians 3; Ephesians 4). This series will begin with ashes, then proceed to salt, water, light, bread, fragrant oil, and palms. Then, during Holy Week, the focus shifts toward water and blood, wood, and finally, on Easter, milk and honey. All these beautiful Old and New Testament elements will remind us of God’s eternal love in Christ, fill us with renewed hope, and increase our joy, knowing that because we are His baptized children, God is near to us now more than ever. Each Sunday there will be a sermon, a Bible studies and a worship service that will remind us of God’s Promised Treasures. Use the Lenten season as a time to mature in

your faith by attending the worship services and participating in the Bible studies! Lenten calendars will be distributed on Sunday, February 19th, that will count down to Easter and as we count down, the Lenten calendar will help us see, smell, touch or taste a biblical item that reminds us of God's eternal love for us in Christ.

An Act of Love! Thank you to everyone who baked cookies for the cookie distribution. Thank you to all who delivered the cookies! *“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”* (Matthew 5:16)

Tell Everyone You Know ... with children and grandchildren ... about ISJ Academy! We have a great school that lifts high the name of Jesus every day while also preparing the children to be godly citizens! ISJ Academy is having an Open House on Tuesday, February 28th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. during which parents and their children can take a tour, meet the teachers, and learn more about the ISJ Academic program. There are brochures on the table in the narthex for you to share. More information is available at: www.mychristianschool.com. The school phone number is: 616.363.0505.

A Notice About Monday Evening Services:

During the season of Lent, there will no Monday evening services. The attendance at the Monday evening services and the midweek Lenten services tend to be very small, so we are *“combining”* them. We encourage you to attend the Wednesday evening services which begin on February 22 with an Ash Wednesday communion service. The midweek services begin at 7:00 p.m. The Monday evening services will resume on Monday, April 17th.

Church Directory: Ashley is working on coming out with a new and updated church directory. Please look for the draft that is on the table by the church office, look and fix anything that may have changed over the year. It is alphabetical by last name. She will leave it out until the end of the month. Thank you!

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, *"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."* (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- Repent of their sin;
- Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

NOTE: We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcohol grape juice. Just let Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.