

SPIRIT OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 10-11, 2024

Transfiguration of Our Lord/Last Sunday after Epiphany

Ministers: Every Member of Spirit of Grace

Pastor Scott Hackler

OUR MISSION

Proclaiming God's Love, God's Promises,
and the Abundant Life

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MINUTE **Civic Engagement Ministry, Marsha Gilford**

INVOCATION

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Psalm 50:1-6)*

God summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

As we encounter its beauty, God's glory shines forth.

God will come and not be silent.

God will judge the people with righteousness.

God calls and says, "Gather before me my loyal followers."

So, we gather to join the heavens in declaring the goodness of God. Amen.

OPENNING HYMN "Love Divine, All Love Excelling"

Love divine, all loves excelling, / Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! / Fix in us thy humble dwelling, / all thy faithful mercies crown. / Jesus, thou art all compassion, / pure, unbounded love thou art; / visit us with thy salvation, / enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit / into ev'ry troubled breast; / let us all in thee inherit; / let us find thy promised rest. / Take away the love of sinning; / Alpha and Omega be; / end of faith, as its beginning, / set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; / let us all thy life receive; / suddenly return, and never, / nevermore thy temples leave. / Thee we would be always blessing, / serve thee as thy hosts above, / pray, and praise thee without ceasing, / glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, / pure and spotless let us be; / let us see thy great salvation / perfectly restored in thee! / Changed from glory into glory, / till in heav'n we take our place, / till we cast our crowns before thee, / lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Public Domain.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

God of life,

you promise good news for all people and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day / that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made / we will rejoice, we will rejoice / and be glad in it, and be glad in it / This is the day that the Lord has made / we will rejoice and be glad in it. / This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.

Text: Psalm 118:24. Public Domain.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ANTHEM

"How Great Thou Art"

Grace Men's Choir

PEACE PASSING

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

FIRST READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life
Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? / You have the words of eternal life. / Alleluia!
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL Mark 9:2-9

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"He Came Down"

Pastor Scott Hackler

HYMN OF THE DAY "How Good, Lord, to Be Here"

How good, Lord, to be here! / Your glory fills the night; / your face and garments,
like the sun, / shine with unborrowed light.

How good, Lord, to be here! / your beauty to behold / where / Moses and Elijah
stand, / your messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past / and hope of things to be, / we hail your / body glorified / and
our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, / we see your kingdom come; / we long to hold the
vision bright / and make this hill our home.

How good, Lord, to be here! / Yet we may not remain; / but since you bid us leave
the mount, / come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt. Public Domain.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and
earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally
begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from**

true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*After each petition: God of grace, **receive our prayer.***

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.

Use all that we offer to serve your mission among us. And now meet us in the holy supper where in bread and cup you open heaven to us. May we receive your gifts and follow in your ways, through your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

We praise you, O God,

For nurturing our past, our present, our future;

For the universe beyond our knowing,

For the desert in which we live,

For creatures seen and unseen,

For our ancestors from many cultures.

We praise you for your covenant people, for Moses and Miriam and Aaron,

For traditions of prayer and praise, giving and thanksgiving.

We praise you, for the leaders of your church,

And for all who offer their faithful service.

We praise you for your Son, O God, who saves us from sin and from evil,
who continues to lead us to new life.

INVITATION

"Come to the Table of Mercy"

Come to the table of mercy, / prepared with the wine and the bread. / All who are hungry and thirsty, / come, and your souls will be fed. / Come at the Lord's invitation; / receive from his nail-scarred hand. / Eat of the bread of salvation; / drink of the blood of the Lamb.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so, we remember your Son, his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection, his word, and his presence in this meal, and we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray that you send your Spirit, your breath, your fire, your wisdom,
your guidance everywhere in the church.

Send your Spirit upon the bread and cup;

renew the world with your mercy.

We praise you, holy God, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,

Abba, Living Water, Breath of Life, today, tomorrow and forever. Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Giver of every gift,

Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

Refrain

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; / blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. / Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; / send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

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: *Refrain*

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*

Text: Graham Kendrick (c) 1987 Make Way Music, admin. by Music Services in the Western Hemisphere (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Used by permission CCLI License No. 1347924.

Choir Director
Choir Accompanist/Pianist
Online Scripture Reader
Saturday Usher Coordinator
Sunday Usher Coordinator
Audio/Lighting

Ken Carnes
Sandy Hobbs
Robert Misata
Glenda Jones
Rich Frusciano
Richard Johnson
Larry & Lorri Mohrweis
David Weeks

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Visitors, Guests and Friends! Let us know that you are here by using this QR code. We are so happy that you have joined us in worship.



WELCOME SESSIONS are an opportunity for new and long-time visitors to learn about our church and how you can be more connected and committed to our ministry. You will meet other prospective members, learn about our vision, mission and values, our plans and our various ministries. Our next Welcome Session is Monday, March 4th from 10am - noon. So that we may have sufficient materials, please call the church office (623-977-6000, ext. 100) to register. Hope to see you there!

ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Services with ashes and communion will be at 12pm (noon) and 5pm.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY does not meet this week because of Ash Wednesday. The next gathering will be at 10am on February 21st. Based on her book, Resistant Hope: Fighting Back Against Suffering, Pastor Elaine Siemsen we be leading us.

TICKETS FOR LIBERTY QUARTET CONCERT, March 10 @ 6:00 will be available next weekend, February 17 & 18. Tickets are free but required. Also: four tickets are available for the Texas Rangers/AZ Diamondbacks Game on March 7th. Come and join your fellow SOG baseball fans. Contact Dorothy Carnes at 563-349-9274

THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL: TRAVEL TO GREECE AND TURKEY

Join Pastor Scott and visit the footsteps of the Apostle Paul in Greece and Turkey. The 10-day trip will include four-day cruise exploring Greek islands and a visit to Ephesus, Turkey. Go to the link on our website.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS February 25 Reminder: Bring your donations to the Valley View Community Food Bank next Sunday. *Whoever is kind to the needy honors God.* Proverbs 14:31

GRIEFSHARE

Thursdays until April 18th from 10:00am - 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. To register Call: Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church (623)977-6000 or online at griefshare.org. Deborah Frusciano: 602-909-8369.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY (WELCA) is having a tea party. February 15 at 11am. A high tea lunch will be served followed by our own Ellie Brooks, author, and researcher. The cost is \$15. Bring your own teacup and wear your favorite hat and come have tea with us. Tickets are available today.

TAKE THE LENTEN CHALLENGE for daily devotion, declutter and wellness in honor of ELCA World Hunger's 50th Anniversary by signing up at www.lentenchallenge.org. Continue helping ELCA World Hunger feed people around the world!



SPIRIT OF GRACE CALENDAR
February 10 – February 18

Saturday, February 10

5:00 pm Service

Sunday, February 11

8:00 am Service

10:00 am Service

Monday, February 12

Tuesday, February 13

9:00 am Staff meeting

12:00 pm Counseling Ministry

*By appointment only

with Dr Joe Dramise

3:00 pm Chimes Rehearsal

4:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 14

9:00 am Counseling Ministry*

*By appointment only

with Dr Joe Dramise

12:00 pm Ash Wed Service

5:00 pm Ash Wed Service

Thursday, February 15

9:00 am Online Worship

video recording

10:00 am GriefShare

11:00 am WELCA Spring lunch

Friday, February 16

9:30 am Bulletin Assemble

Saturday, February 17

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, February 18

8:00 am Worship

10:00 am Worship