

YOU ARE LOVED YOU ARE NOT ALONE.



**GOD IS HOLDING
YOUR LIFE!**

Sunday February 14, 2021

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Introduction: We began the season of Epiphany with the baptism of Jesus and today that season comes to an end as three friends of Jesus witness Jesus changed, filled with the light of God, and in conversation with the great heroes of the faith: Moses and Elijah. At the baptism only Jesus heard the voice from heaven, this day and on the mountain the three friends of Jesus hear it proclaimed that Jesus is the Beloved of God. They are given a command that comes down to us: "Listen to him!" As you listen to the teaching and truth of Jesus may it resound through you, you are loved. You are not alone. God is holding your life.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity + one God,
Whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.
(Silence is kept for reflection)

Holy God,
You search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways.
We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin-
Our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.
We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.
We distrust those who are not like us.
We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.
Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone.
Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;
Receive them in your divine mercy.
Amen.

How vast is God's grace!
Through the power and promise of ✝ Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
You are forgiven. God is holding your life. In that gift of God's forgiveness
we are called to be the beloved community living our Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.
Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountain top 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.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: 2 Kings 2.1-12 (*New Revised Standard Edition*)

2 Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

⁴ Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰ He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹² Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Psalms: 50.1-6 (*New Revised Standard Edition*)

¹ The mighty one, God the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.**

³ Our God comes and does not keep silence,
before him is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around him.

**⁴He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:**

⁵ “Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

**⁶The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge. *Selah***

Gospel: Mark 9.2-9 (*New Revised Standard Edition*)

² Six 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, ³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one^[a] on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,^[b] one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved;^[c] listen to him!” ⁸ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

⁹ As 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.

Message

Song: "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

671 Graham Kendrick, b.1950; Shine, Jesus, Shine 99 10 10 33 and refrain

1. 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. **Ref.**

2. 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. **Ref.**

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Fathers 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!

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead

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

Amen.

The Peace

Announcements

This year Lent begins on February 17-Lent Altar-We need LARGE colorful glass bottles. Do you have any that you could lend? Or any ideas where we could find some?

We are also Searching for Sea Glass! The Lent at Home bags need sea glass. Do you have any that you can part with? Have you bought more than you need? We can use it!

Prayers of Intercession

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Sing Response: **God is holding your life, God is holding your life, God is holding your life, we believe. (sing twice)**

For the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for communities of faith far and near, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those responsible for safety and protection for emergency responders and security guards, attorneys and advocates, civil servants and leaders of governments, that they witness to mercy and justice throughout the world,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For all who suffer this day, that Christ our healer transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For companions on life's journey in this worshiping community, for loved ones who cannot be with us this day, and for guidance during struggles we face, that God's glory is revealed around and among us,
Let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sing Response: **God is holding your life, God is holding your life, God is holding your life, we believe. (sing twice)**

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing:

May God, the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
And the Holy Spirit, the comforter, keep you in peace.
Go in the knowledge that
God is holding your life
You are not alone.
You are loved. **Amen.**

Hymn: "Love Divine" 631 Text Charles Wesley 1707-88: Music Rowland Prichard, 1811-87 HYFRYDOL 87 87 D

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. Come, Almighty, to deliver
Let us all thy life receive
Suddenly return and never
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise they without ceasing
Glory in thy perfect love.

4. 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!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

Thanks for joining us!

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