

**ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

**7:45AM &
10:45AM**

**FEBRUARY
14, 2021**



**Making the
Love of
Christ
Known**

Jeffery Gramza
Senior Pastor

Doug Meyer
Pastor Emeritus

Charlie Frekot
Vicar

Prelude
Welcome /Announcements
Gathering Hymn

ELW 392

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

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.

Children's Sermon

Kids Praise (10:45) *At this time children age 3 – grade 4 are now dismissed, at the parent's discretion, to the Octagon.*

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah 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. ³The 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."

⁴Elijah 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. ⁵The 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."



⁶Then 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. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then 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.

⁹When 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.” ¹⁰He 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.” ¹¹As 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. ¹²Elisha 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.

The reading is concluded:
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50:1-6

¹The mighty one, God the LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a raging storm.

⁴**God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the people.**

⁵“Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice.”

⁶**The heavens declare the rightness of God’s cause,
for it is God who is judge.**



Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

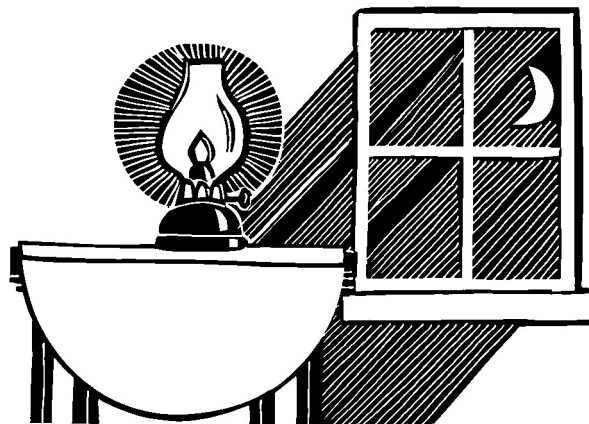
The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.

³Even 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.

The reading is concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 9th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Mark's gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus' followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God's glory manifest in the beloved Son.

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 is concluded:
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

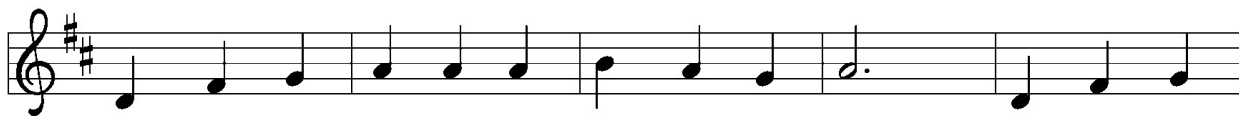
Sermon



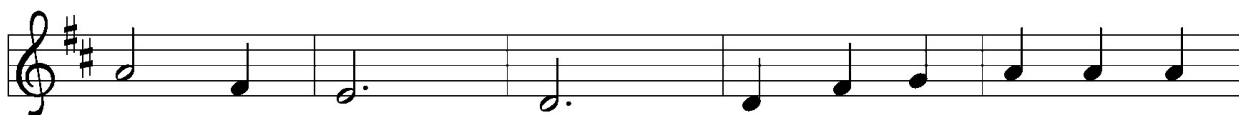
Hymn of the Day

ELW 815

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
 Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration



Confession and Forgiveness

God alone is righteous; God alone is perfect;
God alone is judge. Yet this holy, righteous God
comes to us in love, to save us. Rejoicing in God's grace,
let us confess our sin.

**God of all glory, beauty, and grace, we have tried to hide
from you—to hide our faces, to hide our sin—
yet you have never hidden your love for us.**

**We have tried to search for you—
in temples, in clouds, on mountaintops—
yet you have already revealed yourself to us
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

**Forgive us, and transform us
so that our lives may shine
with your glory, beauty, and grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Our God comes and does not keep silent; God speaks to us with
grace and love, saying: You are my beloved child. This is the good
news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

Prayers of Intercession

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our pray-
ers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

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.

Amen.

Offering

Today we remember the Transfiguration. Jesus is transfigured by God, and God speaks: "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" We are called to listen to Jesus, and by his teaching, we live our lives as children of God. Jesus lived his life intimately with the disciples. We too are called upon, as part of our stewardship, to live our lives with love and compassion with those whom God has given us. Your generous offerings help us to live and proclaim God's love through the ministries of St. John Lutheran.

Offering Prayer

The God who speaks the earth into being now speaks to us, calling us to offer up our lives as a sacrifice of praise. We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
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

Blessing

The very face of God shines upon you with beauty, blessing, and peace. The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**



Shine, Jesus, Shine

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Refrain



Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:



Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude



