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**Rev. Debra North, Pastor
Ms. Molly Finkbiner, Director of Music
Ms. Maritza Oquendo, Parish Secretary**

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(pg. 8)*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Please stand as you are able.)

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.

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. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gathering in this sacred place we anticipate new wonders each week.

Wherever two or three are gathered to worship, a holy spirit is present.

Open our eyes to witness the fantastic love and wondrous joy waiting to be revealed, even this day, even in this place.

**We will want to linger and camp in this Sanctuary,
but when we leave today may our hearts be open
to all the wonders of God's beautiful world.**

GREETING

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.**

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, on the mountain you showed your glory in the transfiguration of your Son. Give us the vision to see beyond the turmoil of our world and to behold the king in all his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

(You may be seated)

FIRST LESSON **JUDIE T.**

The first lesson is found in **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 Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 50:1-6 JUDIE T.

(Read responsively.)



- 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 LESSON JUDIE T.

*The second lesson is found in **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.

¹ 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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC – "This Little Light of Mine" –

Faith Lutheran Boomwacker Choir

VERSE *(Spoken) (Please rise if you are able.)*

Alleluia. This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him! Alleluia. *(Luke 9:35)*

GOSPEL *JUDIE T.*

(Please remain standing.)

The Holy Gospel according to **Mark 9:2-9**
Glory to you, O Lord.

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 of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

(You may be seated.)

HYMN OF THE DAY *spoken* – "**Jesus on the Mountain Peak**" – **WOV 653**

- 1 Jesus on the mountain peak, stands alone in glory blazing;
let us, if we dare to speak,
join the saints and angels praising. Alleluia!**
- 2 Trembling at his feet we saw, Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the prophets and the law
shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!**
- 3 Swift the cloud of glory came: God proclaiming in its thunder
Jesus as the Son by name!
Nations, cry aloud in wonder: Alleluia!**
- 4 This is God's beloved Son! Law and prophets sing before him,
first and last and only One.
All creation shall adore him! Alleluia!**

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936

THE NICENE CREED *(Please rise if you are able).*

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.

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray. O Lord our God, you have commanded the light to shine out of darkness, and you have again brought us to your house of prayer to praise your goodness and ask for your gifts. Accept now in your endless mercy the sacrifice of our worship and thanksgiving, and grant us those requests which will be wholesome for us.

Make us to be children of the light and of the day and heirs of your everlasting inheritance. Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of your mercies, your whole Church, all who join with us in prayer, all our sisters and brothers wherever they may be in your vast kingdom who stand in need of your help and comfort. Pour out upon them the riches of your mercy, so that we, redeemed in soul and body and steadfast in faith, may ever praise your wonderful and holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and always through all ages of ages.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(Please share the peace of Christ with others with a wave and remain standing as the offering is brought forward.)

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. The gifts are brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

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

God the creator strengthens you; Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *spoken* – **"When Love Is Found" - WOV 749**

- 1 When love is found and hope comes home,
sing and be glad that two are one.
When love explodes and fills the sky,
praise God and share our maker's joy.**
- 2 When love has flow'ered in trust and care,
build both each day that love may dare
to reach beyond home's warmth and light,
to serve and strive for truth and right.**
- 3 When love is tried as loved-ones change,
hold still to hope though all seems strange,
till ease returns and love grows wise
through list'ning ears and opened eyes.**
- 5 Praise God for love, praise God for life,
in age or youth, in calm or strife.
Lift up your hearts. Let love be fed
through death and life in broken bread.**

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin and Flower Sponsors: The bulletin is given to the Glory of God by Ruth and Phil Newlander with thanks to God at the birth of our new granddaughter, Marielle Dee on 2/10. The Flowers by Kim Handshaw are dedicated in memory of her father's birthday.

BoomWackers Music Practice: Practice with children and adults weekly on Wednesdays, at 4 pm in our Sanctuary, mask and social distancing is required. Join in to learn and make beautiful music together.

Vaccines for Seniors 65+: Both Lehigh Valley Hospital in East Stroudsburg and St. Luke's in Bartonsville are now accepting appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine for seniors aged 75 and over. For Lehigh Valley, call 484-884-1767. For St. Luke's, call 1-866-785-8537, option 7.

Bulletin Sponsors and Flower Donations: We are now printing our bulletin covers in-house for only \$10 and flowers can either be a donation of \$20 towards silk flowers or you may bring your own fresh flowers and take home after the service. Please write your name on the calendar in the back and complete a form with your dedication note and payment.

PRAYER LIST

Pr. Debby, Eddie, Cheryl, Carol and Craig, Bruce, Denis, Megan, Gertrude, George, Mike, Jennifer, Sue, Tina, Alex, Donna, Andrea, Ginger, Karen, Janet, Jacquie, Rachel, Jenn, Andrea, Ginger, R.C., Richard, Forrest, Roy, Jeanine, Leslie, Cory, Shirley, Deb, Kathy, Tom, Glen, Margery, Lillian K. and Members of the armed services, the congregation of St. Jacobi of Shohola.

Stewardship Snippet

"For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake." – **2 Corinthians 4:5**

Like the Apostle Paul, we sometimes need to remind ourselves and others that what we do as disciples isn't about us but about the crucified and risen Christ. Following Jesus makes us responsible toward and accountable to both God and neighbor.



HYMN OF THE DAY *spoken* – ***Jesus on the Mountain Peak - WOV 653***

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SENDING HYMN *spoken* – ***When Love Is Found - WOV 749***

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