Transfiguration of Our Lord
Sunday, February 14, 2021

Prelude

"Plaisir d'Amour" by J.P. Martini

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

C: Merciful God, we praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us in the gifts and promises of baptism, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all who have been baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

C: We rejoice in the gift of our baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

P: May Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, forgive us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 314 "*Arise, your Light has Come*"

1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,

good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.
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.

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

1 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.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Hymn: Gloria Canticle (Setting 5)

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

[3]Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. [4]In 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. [5]For we do not
proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for
Jesus’ sake. [6]For 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.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

P: The Gospel according to St. Mark.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

[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 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, 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; listen to him!” [8]Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them
any more, 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 671 "*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

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. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

Apostle's Creed

A: Let us confess our faith:
C: 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.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Remembering the Church, the world, and all those in need, let us offer our prayers to God. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Blessed be God, who gave us the light of the world and who desires that all people should come to know Christ's love and grace. Fill our hearts with your radiance and truth that we might walk as children of light. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Lord God, through the ministry of your Son we have received grace upon grace. Bring light to those who dwell in darkness, joy to those in sorrow, hope to those in fear and despair. We pray especially for those we name before you: Dennis, Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Vicki, Rhea, Lupe, Betty, Calina, Bob, Judy, Bill, Michael, and all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and the others we name silently in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: Thanks be to God who calls us to witness in Christ's love in our community. We Give you thanks for the ministries of our congregation, and the blessings of Concordia Church, Concordia Place and Concordia Day. Use our gifts for those you have called us to serve. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

A: God of light and truth, whose love knows no bounds in your Son, Jesus. Bring us to a deeper understanding of the Gospel, help us to accept the challenge of Christian living, and lead us to the joy of faith in the family of your church. Lord, in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer.

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God,

through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
C: Amen.

A: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Closing Anthem

"I want to Walk as a Child of the Light", Kathleen Thomerson; arr. William Brusick

Benediction and Dismissal

P: Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ✢ through the Word made flesh.
Amen.

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"*King of Kings*", arr. Ralph Simpson

Announcements

- In-person worship is resuming! We'll be returning to in-person worship at a limited capacity beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17th with service at 7:00pm. In-person worship will also be offered for each Sunday service beginning on February 21st at 10:00am. Please note that registration is required for in-person attendance. Read our safety protocols for worship and reserve your spot at www.concordiafaith.org/worship . All services will still be available virtually either by livestream via YouTube or recordings will be available later on our YouTube channel, Concordia Church Chicago.

- Concordia Church invites you to participate in our 2021 (community) Daily Lenten devotional. We are providing copies of 'A Story to Tell' in electronic form (via a link to be read with the free Kindle App for smart devices). Please reserve your *electronic copy* by filling out this form. To ensure you receive your copy in time, reserve your electronic copy by Feb. 15th. Questions? Please connect with Jen Phillips at 773-463-1600 ext. 402 or jphillips@concordiafaith.org

- Join Pastor Zook for a Lenten Adult Bible Study, *Sunday mornings at 8:30am; February 21 – March 21*. Titled, **"Whose Bible Is It Anyway?"** the study will explore the following: When it comes to understanding and interpreting the Bible, we have no end of differing opinions and conflicting interpretations of what the Bible teaches. For our 5 week Lenten study, we'll explore the various ways the Bible has been interpreted and how we can be refreshed in our understanding of the Bible for our faith and calling in life. We will read essays by two authors on the history of interpretations and theology of the Scriptures for Christian faith and the Church. Brevard S. Childs, "On Reclaiming the Bible for Christian Theology" and Robert Jenson, "Hermeneutics and the Life of the Church". Copies of the essays will be available to those who wish to participate. You can sign up for the Zoom Lenten Bible Study by emailing Pastor Zook, nzook@concordiafaith.org BYOB--Bring your own Bible.

- Beginning on February 24th, enjoy special weekly Lenten music & readings. The musicians of Concordia Church, along with some special guests, will be releasing a new musical offering each Wednesday. You can find these programs on our YouTube Channel or on our Lenten webpage, www.concordiafaith.org/Lent

- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
    1. Text-to-give: Text "Concordia" to 73256 and follow the link you receive
    2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
    3. Send a check via mail to the church