

**Welcome to Worship**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**  
**February 19, 2023**

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Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.

**Prelude**                      *Heliotrope Bouquet* ~ Scott Joplin

**Gathering Hymn**              *Shine, Jesus, Shine* ~ Grace Notes version

**Prayer of the Day**

**O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, 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**                      Exodus 24:12-18

*At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the LORD" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.*

**Psalm 2**

*You are my son; this day have I begotten you. (Ps. 2:7)*

<sup>1</sup>Why are the nations | in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter | empty threats?

<sup>2</sup>**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes | plot together,  
against the LORD and against the | LORD's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup>"Let us break their | yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their | bonds from us."

<sup>4</sup>**God whose throne is in heav- | en is laughing;  
the LORD holds them | in derision.**

*Flowers this week are donated by Brian and Randine Hughes in honor of their  
40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.*

<sup>6</sup>“As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”

<sup>7</sup>Let me announce the decree of the LORD, who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.”

<sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.

<sup>10</sup>And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>Submit to the LORD with fear, and with trembling bow in worship;

<sup>12</sup>lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath. Happy are all who take refuge in God!

**Gospel** Matthew 17:1-9

*Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

**Hymn of the Day** Christ, Be Our Light ~ ELW 715

A hymn appropriate for this Sunday is “Christ, Be Our Light” (ELW 715). Through the words of this hymn we ask Christ to enlighten us, so that we can give light, peace, food, and shelter to those who are in need. Both the text and the tune were composed by the British Roman Catholic hymn writer Bernadette Farrell.

**Musical Offering** Transfiguration ~ King/Ligertwood/ Smith (Grace Notes)

**Offertory Hymn** Many Will Come ~ ACS 982

**Communion Hymns** Joy ~ The Rend Collective

**Sending Hymn** We Are Marching in the Light ~ ELW 866

**Postlude** Maple Leaf Rag ~ Scott Joplin

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