

# GRACE

The Transfiguration of Our Lord February 14, 2021

8:30 a.m.

# WELCOME TO GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

# Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word. We are blessed by your presence, just as you are. As God welcomes all people through the saving grace of Jesus, so do we seek to welcome God's people of all races, social statuses, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to be together in Christ – to love, to grow, and to serve. We worship online in an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and encourage you to follow along in this document as you also watch or listen to the live stream of our service. May the Lord bless our worship this day.

## Grace Council Statement on Racism

The events that have unfolded in our nation in recent months have reawakened us to the deep divides that still exist within our country. Racism, manifested in individual acts and present throughout systems, continues to prevent us from being the beloved community that God intends. Our faith in the crucified and risen Christ compels us to speak. We speak against the sin of racism. We speak in solidarity with Black people and all people of color, each of whom is precious to God. We stand with and for Black people within our church and school and in the larger community.

We commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ into the world in the hope that, by the Spirit's power, God's Kingdom would come on earth as it is in heaven. We look with hope and anticipation to a season of growth and change as Grace becomes a more faithful witness to God's wide welcome in Christ. We see this as the beginning, not the end, of the conversation. We pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us, and for the courage to follow.

## As We Gather

On the mountain top Jesus is transfigured before the disciples' very eyes and revealed as God's beloved son. Following Jesus down the mountain we cannot help but see where this is headed. In Mark's gospel Jesus is always headed towards Jerusalem. This mountain inevitably leads us to the mount of Golgotha, the hill outside the city where Jesus is transfigured again, this time alongside two common criminals and is lifted up on a cross transfiguring an instrument of torture into the very tree of life. Revealed as God's beloved in baptism, his death becomes ours and his resurrection life courses through our veins and in those waters we are transfigured, clothed in the dazzling white of Christ's righteousness and given the spirit that burns from the mountaintop of our hearts. Shining brightly we illuminate God's light into all the world's shadowy places. And, transfiguration happens again and again.

# + GATHERING +

PRELUDE: Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair

Jon D. Vieker

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.
- Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **G** Amen.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

- Most merciful God,
- we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
  We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
  We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
  For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
  Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins.
   As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

**ENTRANCE HYMN**: Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788 Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, Choralbuch, 1815

#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **G** And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE: Glory to God in the Highest



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** 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.

C Amen.

# + WORD +

#### FIRST READING: 2 Kings 2:1–12

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

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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."

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

<sup>9</sup>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." <sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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** The Word of the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 50:1-6

ANTIPHON: Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God Shines forth in glory.
The Lord, the God of | gods, has spoken;\* he has called the earth from the rising of the sun | to its setting.
Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,\* God reveals him- | self in glory.
Our God will come and will | not keep silence;\* before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a | raging storm.
He calls the heavens and the earth | from above\* to witness the judgment | of his people.
"Gather before me my | loyal followers,\* those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice."

Let the heavens declare the rightness | of his cause;\*
 for God him- | self is judge.

#### SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>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** The Word of the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL VERSE: Luke 9:35

- L Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
- **G REFRAIN** (below)

L This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him!

#### **C** REFRAIN

John Ferguson

#### HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:2–9

▶ The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

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, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>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." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved: listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>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.
- **G** Praise to you, O Christ.

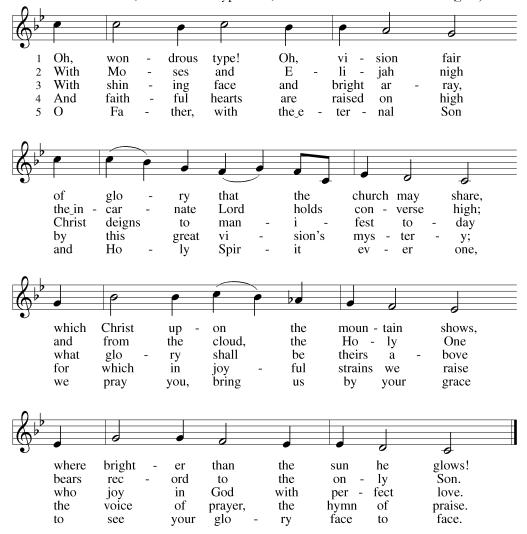
#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: Transfiguration Happens

Pastor Troy E. Medlin Mark 9:2–9



HYMN OF THE DAY: Oh, Wondrous Type! Oh, Vision Fair



Text: Sarum, 15th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: DEO GRACIAS, English, 15th cent.

#### NICENE CREED

- **P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:
- 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.

ANTHEM: O Worship the Lord

George Frideric Handel arr. James Chepponis

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Psalm 96:9a

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

A Lord, in your mercy,

#### **G** hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

### LORD'S PRAYER

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

# + SENDING +

#### BENEDICTION

- P Almighty God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- **G** Amen.



Text: Latin hymn 11th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

#### DISMISSAL

- **A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- **G** Thanks be to God.
- 12

# LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Troy E. Medlin, presiding minister The Rev. Karl Reko, assisting minister The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor Valerie Poulos, soprano Justin Martin, tenor Eunice Eifert, videographer Julie Hinz, sound board operator

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# LET US PRAY...

#### Those who are sick and recovering from illness

Rose Mary Anderson Tina Baird Annalise Balock Cathy Barker Jim Barker Len Berghaus Anne-Marie Bogdan Ed Borg Rosemary Cheatem **Natalie Chizzo** Marilyn Gotsch Angela Gruendler Carl & Donna Gruendler David Gruendler

Felipe Altamirano (friend of Cathy and Paul Schnittker) Mardie Anderson (friend of Christie Nelson) Valerie Anderson (friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke) Vera Leora Barnett (friend of Paul Eichwedel) James Beglin (cousin of Cathy Schnittker) Tony Beneventi (friend of Evelyn Grams) Karen Berglund (friend of Carol Stanger) Stephanie Bogue and Elva (friends of Pat Anderson) Florence Breed (cousin of Irmgard Swanson) Ken Briggs (friend of many at Grace) Mike and Beth Bullock (parents of Keith Bullock) Linda Castaing (friend of Marnie Rourke) Family of Jim Cozzi (friends of Diana Sicuro) Linda DeMeyere (friend of Randy and Ellie Schnack) Peggy Dickenson (mother of Paul Eichwedel) David Eastman and family (brother of Pat Anderson) Patti and Neal Enslin (friends of Marilyn Heppner) Emily Ford (daughter-in-law of Cynthia Hill) Benjamin Galiher (nephew of Paul May) Ray Garmatz (son of Margaret Garmatz) Ann Gesme (mother of Karen Brunssen and Martha Nielsen) Luke Gawencka (friend of Eunice Spurgat) Stacy Gibb and family (friends of Kristin Vogen) Mike Guss (friend of Lance and Stephanie Wilkening) Jerry Haase (friend of Mary Margaret Bartley & Stewart Clarke) Jill Hanssen (niece of Ann Mason) Harry Heppner (brother of Ken Heppner) Alice Hollis (friend of Marge Sanger) John Hunt (friend of Ken and Marilyn Heppner) Mia Rose Jones (granddaughter of John and Loretta Lattyak) Doug Kelner (friend of Irmgard and Al Swanson) Don Kersten (brother of Phyllis Kersten) Sally Kindsfater (sister of Mary Jane Endicott) Andrew Korcek (friend of Eunice Spurgat) George Kozuchowski (friend of Timothy Douma) Lily (friend of Carrie Douma) Arnold Krubsack (brother of Irmgard Swanson) Kathryn Krubsack (niece of Irmgard Swanson) Maxx Kusper (friend of Deb Maxwell) Alyssa Kutak (granddaughter-in-law of Galen Gockel)

Sarah Gruendler-Ladner Kathy Hayes Patricia Herendeen Joan Koerber Jerry Koenig Beth Smoots McClanahan Karen McMahon Jennifer Murtoff Chrissy Nelson Paul Nelson Tim Sandvoss Pat Scala Rich and Bonnie Stasack

Elsie Locke (grandmother of Troy Medlin) Karen Luebbe (mother of Jenny, sister of Stan Reddel) Joyce and John Lunde (friends of Susan Messerli) Anne Matthys (mother of Susan Curran) Leone, Gracie, and Brian Maxwell (cousins of Tom and Deb Maxwell) Linda Merril (cousin of Sue Foran) Nancy Molitor (friend of Kathryn Jandeska) Monika Nash (daughter of Don and Verna Offermann) Elaine Pierce (friend of Al and Irmgard Swanson) Jacob Pletan (great-nephew of Ruth Rehwaldt & Gick Schmidt) James Powers (friend of Al Swanson) Susan Prather (cousin of Adrienne and Ronald Rott) Zach & Ellie Radosevich (grandchildren of Ginny & Frank Swaba) Phillip Rice III (friend of Pat Anderson) Ronald Riley (friend of Al Swanson) John Rohleder (friend of Sandy Grams) Florence Saeger (friend of Karl and Ruth Reko) John Schuurman (friend of Timothy Douma) Lindsay Shaner (brother of Bob Shaner) Mary Lu Shipstad (friend of Marilyn Heppner) Ken and Lori Shoup (friends of Marilyn Heppner) Zina and Huxley Shoup (friends of Marilyn and Ken Heppner) Nancy Stelling (friend of Pastor Phyllis Kersten) Lee Stephens (brother of Tony) Jennifer Sylvester (daughter of Janet Sylvester) Martin A. Thieme (brother of Susan Franzone) Jan Thomson (sister-in-law of Christine Phillips) Rev. Mark Van Scharrel (friend of Karl and Ruth Reko) Mary Lou and Ron Wagoner (sister and brother-in-law of Stan Reddel) Brian Walden (relative of Pat Gulik) Kim Walsh (niece of Cathy Schnittker) Verna Walsh (aunt of Dan and Deanna Marotz) Bob Weaver (husband of Gretchen) Lucy White (friend of Mary Beth Logas) Tim White (brother of Beverly White) Elise Wojack (niece of Pat Gulik) Kathie Wolff (friend of Tim Duoma) Randi Woodworth (sister of Tammy Bretscher) Veronica Zurowski (mother of Tom)

#### **Benevolence** ministries

Kidz Express

#### For those who mourn

Kristin Berlinski (cousin of Julie Hinz) Lottie Goraj (mother-in-law of Scott Christopher) Thomas Heasty (uncle of Anna Beyersdorf) Bashard Broughton Myers (nephew of Miriam Moore) Patrick Peery (nephew of Marnie Rourke) Ernest Yonkers (relative of Anna Beyersdorf)

#### Those serving in the armed services

Timothy Berghaus (grandson of Len and Judy Berghaus) Kevin Buss (nephew of Christa Krout) Reid Beveridge (son-in-law of the Schnacks) David Danford (son of John and Karen) E. Michael Garcia Goetting (son of Mary Goetting) Matthew Garmatz (grandson of Margaret Garmatz) Bradley Larson (cousin of Rhea Sprecher)

#### Those in the foreign service

Julie Kmet (friend of Ed and Susan Schumacher) Kari Paetzold (niece of Jim and Sharman Galezewski)

#### Those studying abroad

Colleen Lattyak *(Germany)* Drew Krueger *(England)* 

#### Those who are homebound

Barbara Bunjes Christopher Davis Marie Gierke Ronald Gresens Gloria Hillert Carolyn Martin Joanne Nelson Barbara Rinnan Kathleen Wrobel

#### Those who need encouragement

Bruce Burnside (friend of Bob and Margaret Burke) in Oakhill Correctional Center Cheryl Luchetta (friend of Joan Koerber) in Logan Correctional Center

Sonny Putman (nephew of Susan Franzone) Rusty Robb (grandnephew of Margaret Kruse/Roberta Gillespie) Jason Brown (nephew of Tim and Sue Sandvoss) Matthew Shinkwin (friend of Eunice Spurgat) Christopher W. Sylvester (grandson of Janet Sylvester)

#### Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church

We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

If you are visiting us for the first time or would like to learn more about Grace, please complete this form, detach, and place it in the offering plate.

NAME(S)	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY/STATE/ZIP	
PHONE NUMBER	

Check all that apply:

- I am visiting Grace for the first time.
- **I** would like to know more about Grace Church.
- **I** am interested in a path toward membership.
- I would like to know more about Grace School.
- □ I would like to receive Grace's weekly e-mail, Sunday Is Coming.
- □ I would like one of the pastors to contact me via (check one) □ Phone or □ E-mail.

## GRACE LUHHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

7300 Division Street River Forest, Illinois 60305 Phone: (708) 366-6900 Fax: (708) 366-0966

www.graceriverforest.org gracechurch@graceriverforest.org David R. Lyle, Senior Pastor Troy E. Medlin, Associate Pastor F. Dean Lueking, Pastor Emeritus Michael D. Costello, Cantor Jeremy Zimmer, Assistant Cantor William Koehne, Principal Gerald Koenig, Principal Emeritus Pat Gulik, Parish Nurse Julie Modrich, Children's Ministry Coordinator Gwen Gotsch, Communications Coordinator Jim McClanahan, Director of Administration & Finance Rich Brooks, Facilities Manager

Bring in, build up, and send out disciples for Jesus Christ