

*Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield*

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The Transfiguration of Our Lord ~February 11, 2024

*Color of the Day: White - the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.*

Opening Hymn ..... #503 – O Day Full of Grace  
Confession and Absolution ..... Page 167

*Service of the Word*

Introit ..... Page 168

*Ps. 99:1-5; antiphon: Ps. 99:9*

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;\*  
for the LORD our God is | holy!

The LORD reigns; let the peoples | tremble!\*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the | earth quake!

The LORD is great in | Zion;\*

he is exalted over all the | peoples.

Let them praise your great and | awesome name!\*

Ho- | ly is he!

The King in his might loves | justice.\*

You have established equity; you have executed justice and  
righteousness in | Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his | footstool!\*

Ho- | ly is he!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;\*  
for the LORD our God is | holy!

Kyrie ..... Page 168

Hymn of Praise (This Is The Feast) ..... Page 170

Salutation & Collect of the Day ..... Page 172

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading ..... Page 172

*2 Kings 2:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>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>And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please 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>And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." <sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please 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 sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." <sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Please 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 sons of the 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 cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. <sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." <sup>10</sup>And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." <sup>11</sup>And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**Gradual** ..... Page 172

*Ps. 117:1-2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\*  
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

**Epistle Reading** ..... Page 172

*2 Corinthians 3:12-18; 4:1-6*

<sup>12</sup>Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, <sup>13</sup>not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. <sup>14</sup>But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup>Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. <sup>16</sup>But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. <sup>17</sup>Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup>And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God’s word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only 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 what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**Choral Anthem**

**Alleluia & Verse** ..... Page 173

**Holy Gospel** ..... Page 173

*Mark 9:2-9*

<sup>2</sup>And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup>For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>And a cloud overshadowed them, and

a voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved Son; listen to him.”

<sup>8</sup>And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. <sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn of the Day** ..... #413 - O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair

**The Sermon** .....  
*Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor’s blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez’s blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>*

**Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:**

**Creed** ..... Page 174/175

**Prayer of the Church & Offering** ..... Page 175

*Our First Fruits & Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God’s love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.*

**Offertory** ..... Page 176

*Service of the Sacrament*

**Preface** ..... Page 177

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus & Prayer of Thanksgiving** ..... Page 178

**Lord’s Prayer and The Words of Our Lord** ..... Page 179

**Pax Domini & Agnus Dei** ..... Page 180

**Distribution** ..... Page 181

*Before partaking of the Lord’s Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.*

**Distribution Hymns** ..... #415 – Jesus on the Mountain Peak

#414 – ‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

#411 - I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

**Post-Communion Canticle (Thank the Lord)** ..... Page 181

**Post-Communion Collect and Benediction** ..... Page 183

**Closing Hymn** ..... #417 - Alleluia, Song of Gladness