

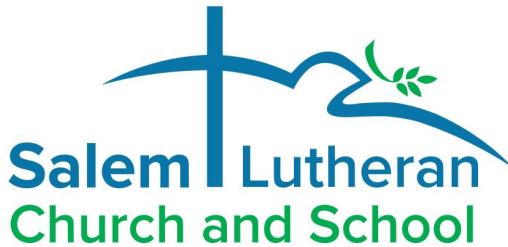


EPIPHANY

moments

— . . . —

Glory is Hidden in Order to be Revealed



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Transfiguration Sunday

*Epiphany Moments— Glory is Hidden in Order
to Be Revealed*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God’s powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Mighty Lord, thank you for bringing me back to your house once again for worship. Reveal your glory to me through your Word and fill my life with prayer and praise. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: Scripture describes God’s glory as being brighter than the sun. Just as looking directly at the sun is dangerous to our sight, seeing our holy God in all his glory would surely mean our end. Being holy doesn’t just mean God loves good; he also hates evil with burning intensity. And we sin every day. No wonder the Lord once told Moses, “No one may see me and live” (Ex. 33:20). Sinners would die of fear if they saw God in all his holy glory.

So how can we possibly hope to know and see God? In our final epiphany moment of this season, God explains. God hides his glory in order to reveal himself. Jesus hid his glory and went to the cross to save sinners. To allow sinners to see his glory without fear God hides it in the gospel. In the gospel, we find the glory of God in Christ’s love, power, and salvation. The reality is that when God’s glory is hidden, it is most on display.

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: “Epiphany” comes from a Greek word that means “reveal.” In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing himself as the divine Son of God come to earth in humility to save sinners. In this season we are reminded that there is more to Jesus than what we see on the surface. A review of Jesus’ life provides an abundance of epiphany moments where God reveals our Savior to us, and reveals our place in his plan as well.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe

Piano/Organ: Luke Dorn

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Hymn: Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

CW 919



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word we are gath - ered
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and



all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks our night
God pro - ceed - ing, o - pen now our heart and mind;
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we your Word may trust,



now to seek and love and fear you, by your teach - ings,
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to
help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your
con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, while we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.
God can win us; you must work all good with - in us.
Church now rais - es; hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.
low must wan - der, till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Praise Response: Beautiful Savior

CW 522 sts. 1, 3-4



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light, bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love thee,
spark - ling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er,
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,



tru - ly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels in the sky.
praise, ad - o - ra - tion now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

First Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

The glory of God was so great it was reflected in the face of Moses.

²⁹When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD. ³⁰When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. ³²Afterward all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands the LORD had given him on Mount Sinai.

³³When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. ³⁴But whenever he entered the LORD's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the LORD.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day: Great Are the Works of the LORD

Psalm 2D

Pastor will sing the verses. The congregation will sing the refrains and gloria.

Refrain



Great are the works of the LORD. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Great are the works of the LORD.

Tone



Why do the nations / conspire
and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / gainst the LORD
and against his A- / noointed. **Refrain**

The One enthroned in / heaven laughs;
the Lord / scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying,
"I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / mountain." **Refrain**

I will proclaim the / LORD's decree:

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your / Father."

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. *Refrain*

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 3:7-18

Paul declares that the glory of the New Covenant of grace far surpasses the glory of the Old Covenant of law. The glory of the New Covenant is hidden in the work of Christ and revealed through the work of the Holy Spirit.

⁷Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, transitory though it was, ⁸will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? ⁹If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! ¹⁰For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. ¹¹And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

¹²Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. ¹³We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. ¹⁴But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 9:7



Refrain



A cloud covered them, and a voice came from the cloud:
"This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" **Refrain.**

The glory of God, hidden in Christ, shines on the Mount of Transfiguration.

²⁸About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. ³¹They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. ³²Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)

³⁴While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." ³⁶When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be seated.

Children's Devotion

Hymn of the Day: Down from the Mount of Glory CW 388



- 1 Down from the mount of glo - ry came Je - sus Christ, our Lord.
- 2 Trans - fig - ured, Christ, the low - ly, stood ra - diant in the light,
- 3 Yet mark this glo - ry hid - den! See him the mount de - scend
- 4 Strange how his jour - ney end - ed! In love that is his fame
- 5 Then hail the dou - ble glo - ry of Je - sus Christ, our Lord,



Re - call the won - drous sto - ry, rich gem in sa - cred Word.
 light found in God - head sole - ly, for hu - man eyes too bright.
 and, by the Fa - ther bid - den, his will - ing foot - steps bend
 our Lord a - gain as - cend - ed a mount—the hill of shame.
 and let the won - drous sto - ry full peace and joy af - ford!



A - gain your faith will view him in dou - ble glo - ry here;
 Then came a voice from heav - en, con - firmed what here we see;
 to seek hu - mil - i - a - tion in deep - est depths of woe,
 Up - on the cross he prof - fered him - self to ag - o - ny;
 The ho - ly mount ac - claims him the maj - es - ty di - vine;



the great - er hom - age due him will in your life ap - pear.
 the words "my Son" were giv - en to seal his de - i - ty.
 to suf - fer deg - ra - da - tion no mind can probe or know.
 his ho - ly soul he of - fered to set the guilt - y free.
 Mount Cal - va - ry pro - claims him Re - deem - er— yours and mine.

Sermon

Based on 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

"People of God: Reflect God's Glory!"

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the
 Father Almighty.**

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

M: Eternal God and Father, we pray for the Church around the world. Always keep your people faithful to you. Lift the veil from our eyes and guide us to see Christ in the Word and sacraments. During all the distractions of life, help us set our sights on Jesus. Keep us safe and protect us from the tricks and treachery of the devil. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: We pray that you move us to have compassion on those stumbling in the darkness and empower us to proclaim Christ to all who have no faith. Give us courage to be unashamed of the light you have given us and to carry it willingly with joy wherever we go and whatever we do. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: We pray that Christ reveals his gracious presence to all who suffer. We pray especially for our families and those among our friends and families who are sick or in need and for everyone whose needs we hold in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Be with us, Lord, as we think about the coming days of Lent. Let your law convince us that we indeed deserve your punishment and would be lost forever without Christ. As our hearts fill with sorrow and regret, lift us up to see the Savior's sacrifice on the cross and give us hearts full of faith in him. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

M: Lord God, hear the prayers we offer and let your grace and mercy flow to us and all for whom we pray. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Light of the world.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain

CW 390



1 Je - sus, take us to the moun - tain where, with Pe - ter,
2 What do you want us to see there that your close com -
3 What do you want us to hear there that your dear dis -
4 Take us to that oth - er moun - tain where we see you
5 We who have be - held your glo - ry, ris - en and as -



James, and John, we are daz - zled by your glo - ry,
pan - ions saw? Your di - vin - i - ty re - vealed there
ci - ples heard? Once a - gain the voice from heav - en
glo - ri - fied, where you shout - ed, "It is fin - ished!"
cend - ed Lord, can - not help but tell the sto - ry,



light as blind - ing as the sun. There pre - pare us
fills us with the self - same awe. Clothed in flesh like
says of the in - car - nate Word: "Lis - ten, lis - ten,
where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned cen -
all that we have seen and heard, say with Pe - ter,



for the night by the vi - sion of that sight.
ours you go, matched to meet our dead - liest foe.
ev - 'ry - one; this is my be - lov - ed Son!"
tu - ri - on: "Tru - ly this was God's own Son!"
James, and John: "You are God's be - lov - ed Son!"

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Farewell to Alleluia

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter dawn as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

Hymn: Alleluia, Song of Triumph

CW 977



1 Al - le - lu - ia, song of tri - umph, sound of joy that
2 Al - le - lu - ia we are sing - ing, voic - ing hymns in
3 Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while
4 May our hymns be filled with long - ing— hear us, Ho - ly



can - not die; al - le - lu - ia is the an - them
pure ac - cord, with Christ's ho - ly Church u - nit - ed,
here be - low; al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions
Trin - i - ty— as we look to your blest East - er,



ev - er dear to choirs on high; saints a - dorned in
 jus - ti - fied, re - deemed, re - stored, and with all his
 make us for a while for - go. For the sol - emn
 here, and then e - ter - nal - ly, when we shall once



robes of glo - ry join the great an - gel - ic cry.
 faith - ful peo - ple raise our songs to praise the Lord.
 time is com - ing when our tears for sin must flow.
 more be sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

WELS Connection

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday morning, children ages 3yrs to 6th grade are invited to learn more about Jesus in Sunday JAM, starting at 9:15am in the Kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at the same time in the fellowship hall downstairs.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Open Door Policies—One Stands; Everyone Else Sits

Bible Readings: 1 Samuel 17:4-11,32-40, 45-59; Hebrews 4:14-16; Luke 4:1-13

Hymns: 538, 863, 660, 842, 863



Reflections on Repentance

From Broken to
Restored in Christ

“The Lord is not slow to do what he promised. . . . Instead, he is patient for your sakes, not wanting anyone to perish, but all to come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9)

King David is described in Scripture as a “man after the Lord’s own heart.” But this great believer was also a great sinner. He lusted after a woman named Bathsheba, had an affair with her and caused the murder of her husband Uriah. When the Prophet Nathan confronted David with the greatness of his son, David repented, penning the great penitential Psalm 51.

This Psalm serves as the basis for our midweek Lenten devotions this year, exploring the depths of our sinful depravity, the brokenness of our relationship with God, our dire need for rescue, and the good news of forgiveness. Our sins too are great, but our Savior Jesus is greater, restoring us by his sacrifice into the family of God.

**Midweek Lenten Services begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5.
Each week we worship at 4 & 6:30 pm
with fellowship dinner served between services.**

March 5—*Realizing our Need for Repentance*

March 12—*Recognizing Against Whom We Sin*

March 19—*Revealing Our Sinful Nature*

March 26—*Remembering God’s perfect Demands*

April 2—*Relying on God’s Grace*

April 9—*Removing our Guilt*



2025



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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ✦ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

