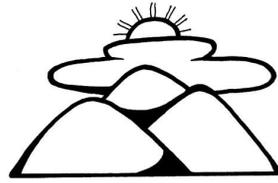


# FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*We are called to proclaim and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are nurtured,  
prepared, and sent to be the light of Christ in our world.*



February 14, 2021

## Transfiguration of Our Lord

Pastor: Pr. Ryan Rouse

L = Leader; **All/C= Congregation**

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE “*Great is the Lord*” by Michael W. Smith arranged by Fred Bock

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

L God said, “This is my Son, the Beloved.”

**All Let us worship you, O beloved Lord Jesus**

L God said, “Listen!”

**All We want to hear Your word anew this day.**

L God said, “Do not be afraid.”

**All We lay our worries at your feet.**

L And after all this was spoken, God was quiet.

**All Still our souls, quiet our minds, and prepare us to be transformed, holy God.**

GATHERING HYMN “*Be Thou My Vision*”

ELW #793 (BULLETIN PG. 6)

GREETING

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

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray: Almighty God, ...

**C 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.**

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK TO US

**FIRST READING 2 Kings 2:1-12**

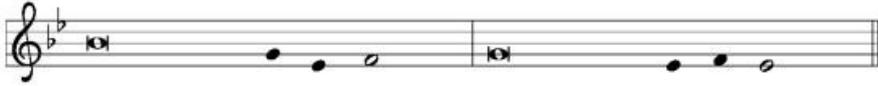
*Today's reading centers on the transfer of power and authority from the prophet Elijah to Elisha. Their travels, which retrace the path of Joshua back to Moab (the place where Moses died) and the parting of the waters, demonstrate that Elisha and Elijah are legitimate successors of the great prophet Moses.*

<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>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.



## PSALM Psalm 50:1-6

- <sup>1</sup>The mighty one, God the | LORD, has spoken;  
calling the earth from the rising of the sun | to its setting.
- <sup>2</sup>**Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,  
God shines | forth in glory.**
- <sup>3</sup>Our God will come and will | not keep silence;  
with a consuming flame before, and round about a | raging storm.
- <sup>4</sup>**God calls the heavens and the earth | from above  
to witness the judgment | of the people.**
- <sup>5</sup>“Gather before me my | loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice.”
- <sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare the rightness | of God’s cause, for it is God | who is judge.**

## SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

*The spotlight of Christian ministry is not on the people who carry out ministry but on the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as God made light shine at creation, God makes the light of Jesus Christ shine in our lives through Christian ministry.*

<sup>3</sup>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.

## GOSPEL READING Mark 9:2-9

*Mark’s gospel presents the transfiguration as a preview of what would become apparent to Jesus’ followers after he rose from the dead. Confused disciples are given a vision of God’s glory manifest in the beloved Son.*

<sup>2</sup>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.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY     *“How Good, Lord, to Be Here”*

ELW#315 (Bulletin Pg. 7, vs. 1, 2, 3,5)

NICENE CREED

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  
    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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

### **WE SHARE THE MEAL**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:

**C like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.**

**Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

**C 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.**

**WE SEND TO SERVE**

SENDING

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

L God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter keep you in peace.

**C Amen.**

SENDING HYMN     *"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

ELW #659 (BULLETIN PG. 8)

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"*

by Johann G. Werner, arranged by Cindy Berry

**Zoom Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting**

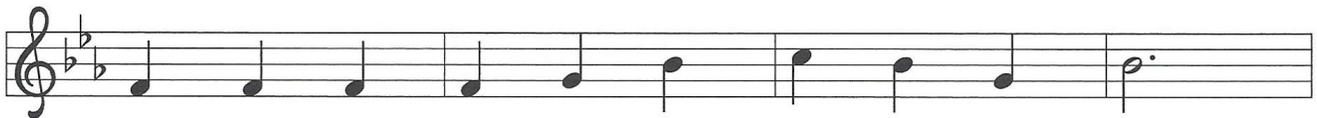
Please join us on February 21st at 11:15 as we gather virtually to hear the ministry reports from our leadership & thank the 2020 council for their dedicated service. All are welcome to attend. The Annual Report and a link to the zoom meeting will be shared via email.

793

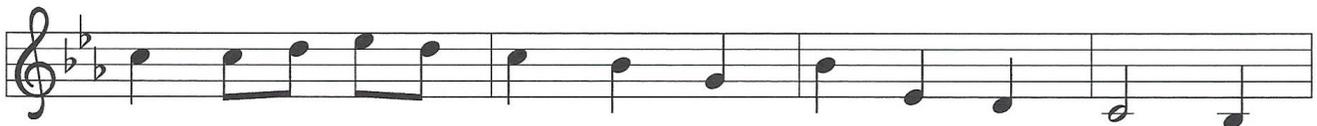
Be Thou My Vision



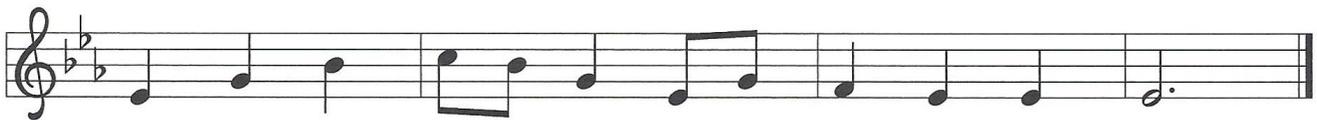
1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

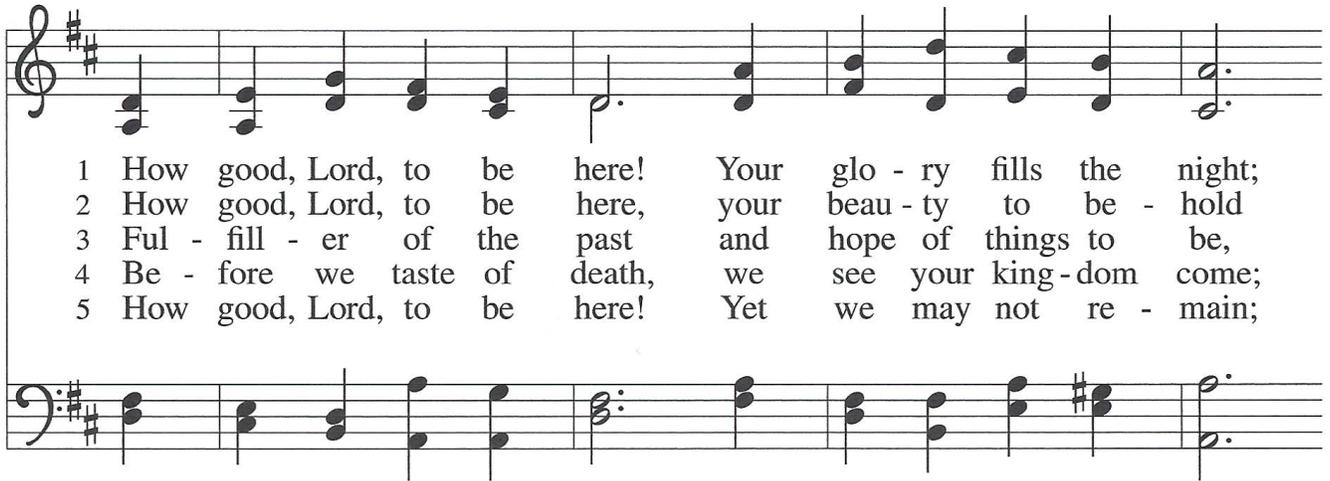


thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,  
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

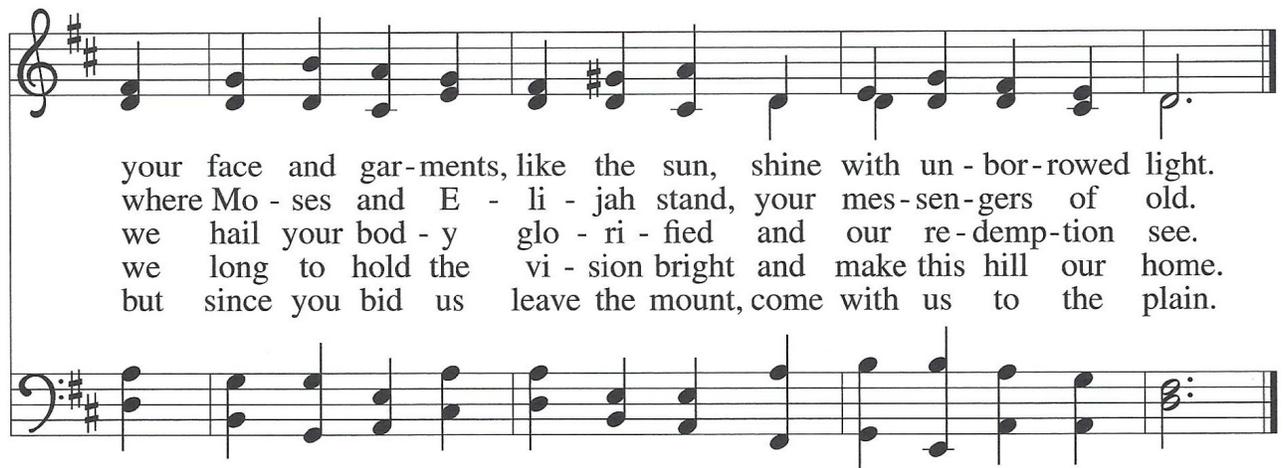


wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

## How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
 we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
 we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
 but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

# 659

# Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as  
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers  
 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night - time  
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll  
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to  
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er  
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,  
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row  
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.  
 walk the mile and bear the load.  
 speak the peace you long to hear.  
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
 let you be my ser - vant, too.