# Transfiguration of Our Lord Service of Holy Communion March 2, 2025

# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Traditional Worship 9:30 a.m.

\*-the congregation is invited to stand

#### WELCOME TO GRACE

**A warm welcome** to all who are worshiping with us during this season after Epiphany. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a guest card which is found in the pews. Following the service, please introduce yourself to the pastor.

#### INTRODUCTION

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

God gathers us in unity.

**GATHERING** 

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **PRELUDE**

Exuberant Joy

Arnold Sherman

Bells of Grace

Please stand as you are able.

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\pm$  one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

#### Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God.

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine."

In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

## \*GATHERING HYMN

Beautiful Savior

ELW#838

## \*GREETING

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

And also with you.

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

## FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

<sup>29</sup> Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand. Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. 30 When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. 31 But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. 33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; 34 but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, 35 the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## PSALM: Psalm 99

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

- <sup>2</sup> The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.
- <sup>3</sup> Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome; God is the Holy One.
- <sup>4</sup>O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

<sup>5</sup> Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool;

God is the Holy One.

- <sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD, they called upon you, and you answered them,
- <sup>7</sup> you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.

## <sup>8</sup>O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

<sup>9</sup> Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

## SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

<sup>12</sup> Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, <sup>13</sup> not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; <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 all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

<sup>4:1</sup> Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

The word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands as able.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*GOSPEL: Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

## Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

[37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. 38 Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. 39 Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. 40 I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." 41 Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." 42 While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. 43a And all were astounded at the greatness of God.] The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly may be seated.

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

**SERMON** 

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW#843

## \*APOSTLES' CREED

Let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## \*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Leader prays for the church/world and all in need. Each prayer concludes:
God of grace,

hear our prayer.

#### \*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

## And also with you.

A greeting of peace is shared among the assembly.

#### **OFFERING**

We respond to the grace given us by sharing our gifts with others through the offering. Today's regular offering supports the ongoing ministry of Grace church. You can give online, by cash, or by check.

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

This Little Light of Mine

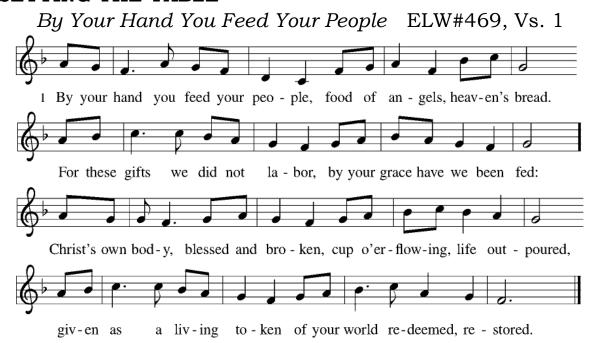
arr. Neil Johnson

Grace Chancel Choir

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

**MEAL** 

#### \*SETTING THE TABLE



## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

## And also with you.

Amen.

Lift up your hearts.

# We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

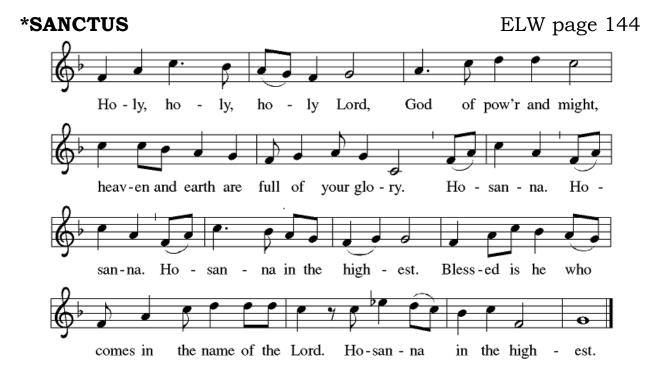
## It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;

and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## \*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.

He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising,
and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

#### Amen.

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness. **Thanks be to God.** 

The assembly is seated.

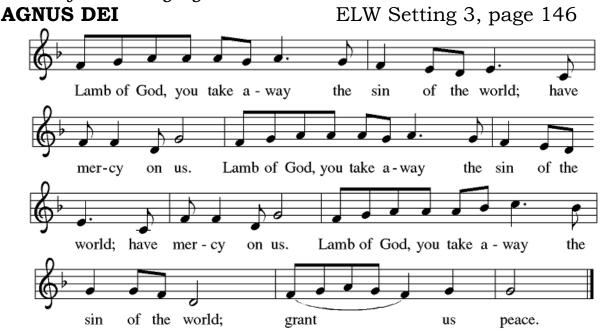
Those communing in their seats and at home are led through each element.

#### COMMUNION

The Lutheran Church welcomes all to the Lord's Supper. If you are not a Christian and wish to inquire about the Christian faith, we invite you to speak to the minister.

## **DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

Please join in singing:



## \*BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

## Amen.

Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

Amen.

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

**SENDING** 

## \*BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.

#### \*SENDING HYMN

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

ELW#763

## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

## **POSTLUDE**

# My Life Flows on in Endless Song

## How Can I Keep from Singing

# SERVING TODAY IN WORSHIP

| Presiding Minister   | The Rev. Chad Butz   |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Assisting Minister   | Sue Painter          |
| Lector               | Karen Galle          |
| Acolyte              | Nathan Robison       |
| Communion Assistants | Tracey Alfano-Douty, |
|                      | Bonnie Barton        |
| Director of Music    | Kristopher Hartman   |
| Organist             | Emily Hartman        |
|                      |                      |

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## **Beautiful Savior**



## Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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# My Life Flows On in Endless Song



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

## **Our Story**

Matthew 25:35-40: For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'"

# The purpose of Grace Lutheran Church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith

## **Grace Church Staff** Senior Pastor ......The Rev. Chad Butz 610.297.2514 (cell); pastorchad@gracecamphill.org Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry ...... Ethan Lentz Ethan.Lentz@gracecamphill.org Director of Music......Kristopher Hartman K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com Organist ...... Emily Hartman K.E.Hartman11@gmail.com cjury@gracecamphill.org Administrative Specialist ...... Diane Deppen ddeppen@gracecamphill.org To contact the church office: 717.737.0439; office@gracecamphill.org Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Grace Lutheran Church \* 1610 Carlisle Road \* Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011

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