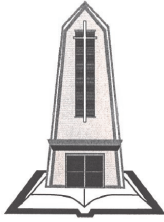




FEBRUARY 10 & 11, 2024

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
REVEALED AS THE SON OF GOD IN HIS GLORY



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

www.stjohnsbc.org

Church:

706 W. Jane Street
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 684-6791

School:

210 S. Alp St.
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 684-6442

WELCOME

We welcome all of you as we gather to celebrate the good news of how Jesus Christ made it known that he is the Son of God and Savior of the world. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us for worship. We ask that you join us in signing the Friendship Register (the red folder in the pew). We look forward to having you join us for worship again.

SEASONAL THEME: REVEALED

EPIPHANY 1: Revealed as our Substitute at his baptism.

EPIPHANY 2: Revealed as the Messiah who calls for us to follow him.

EPIPHANY 3: Revealed as the Messiah through the ambassadors he calls.

EPIPHANY 4: Revealed as the Prophet with authority.

EPIPHANY 5: Revealed as the One who heals and helps his people.

TRANSFIGURATION: Revealed as the Son of God in his glory.

Day after day the disciples were with Jesus. Along the way, they experienced his call, heard his words of authority, and saw his power and love in the healings he performed. Jesus was revealed to them as the Messiah. Yet, day after day, he looked so normal, like any other ordinary man. Today, we hear that one time Jesus revealed himself to three disciples as the Son of God in his glory as he shone brilliantly on the mountain and the voice of the Father again declared, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him." Day after day we hear the gospel in words that seem so simple and ordinary. And yet, in the gospel, Jesus' glory as the Son of God, the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world is revealed to us, and how blessed we are that it is! This final epiphany prepares us for the journey of Lent where we will witness the most glorious work Jesus would fulfill when he came down this Mount of Glory.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

Organist

Choir

Pastor Paul Schaeue

Ms. Gail McFarland

Staff Choir (8:00 am & 10:30 am)

THE SERVICE

Setting One (Blue Hymnal pp. 154-164, 171)

THE GATHERING

OPENING HYMN

389 *How Good, Lord, to be Here*

CONFESSION

(p. 154)

LORD, HAVE MERCY (Spoken)

(pp. 156-157)

GLORY TO GOD (6:00 pm)

(p. 157)

ANTHEM (Sunday)

391 *O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair*

THE WORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

FIRST READING

2 Kings 2:1-12a

The prophet Elijah never tasted death, but instead was taken directly to heaven. On the Mount of Transfiguration Elijah appeared with the glorious Son of God who would taste death.

¹When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, "As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

³The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord is taking your master away from you?"

Then he said, "Yes, I know. Be quiet."

⁴Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here because the Lord has sent me to Jericho."

But he said, "As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

⁵Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the Lord is taking your master away from you?”

He said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here because the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As surely as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.

⁷Then fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood and watched them from a distance, while the two of them were standing at the Jordan. ⁸Elijah took his cloak, folded it together, and struck the water. The water divided to the right and to the left. Then the two of them crossed on dry land.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask me for whatever I can do for you before I am taken from you.”

Then Elisha said, “Let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.”

¹⁰He said, “You have asked for a difficult thing. If you see me being taken from you, it will surely be yours. But if not, then it will not.”

¹¹While they were walking and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire, and horses of fire came and separated them. So Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ^{12a}Elisha was watching and crying out, “My father! My father! Israel’s chariot and its charioteers!” Then he did not see him anymore. ^{EHV}

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2 (6:00 pm)
Choir sings Psalm 2C (Sunday)

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

We cannot yet physically see what those disciples saw on the Mount of Transfiguration. But St. Paul teaches we can still see the glory of Christ’s light in the gospel.

³But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. ⁴In the case of those people, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from clearly seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God’s image.

⁵Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For the God who said, “Light will shine out of darkness,” is the same one who made light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the person of Jesus Christ. ^{EHV}

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Pastor speaks Appointed Verse

Mark 9:7

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

GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-9

Jesus gives Peter, James, and John a glimpse of his glory.

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain where they were alone by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them. ³His clothes became radiant, dazzling white, whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. ⁴And Elijah appeared to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know what to say because they were terrified.

⁷A cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.”

⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ^{EHV}

HYMN OF THE DAY

388 *Down from the Mount of Glory*
Choir sings st. 2,4 (Sunday)

SERMON TEXT

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

THEME: THE GOSPEL IS YOUR “MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE”

APOSTLES’ CREED

(p. 163)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(p. 164)

OFFERING

HYMN

522 *Beautiful Savior*

LORD’S PRAYER

Traditional (p. 171)

BLESSING

(p. 171)

This Week at St. John's

Tuesday	5:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Boy's Basketball @ Home: B-Team vs Tawas A-Team vs Lansing Church Council
Wednesday	10:00 am 3:15 pm 4:15 pm - 5:45 pm 6:00 pm	Midweek Bible Class Ash Wednesday Worship Service/Grades 5-8 sing Lenten Supper (cost: free will offering) Ash Wednesday Worship Service/Senior Choir sings
Thursday	7:00 pm	Midweek Bible Class
Friday		Boys' A-Team MALL Basketball Tournament @ St. John's
Saturday	7:15 am - 3:00 pm 6:00 pm	Boys' A-Team MALL Basketball Tournament @ St. John's <i>Men Alive!</i> Rally @ DoubleTree, Bay City Worship Service/Lord's Supper
Sunday	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Worship Service/Lord's Supper Coffee Hour/Sr. Choir/BIC/Bible Class Worship Service/Lord's Supper/Sr. Choir sings

Announcements

The Altar flowers this weekend are placed by the family of Arlin & Arlene Obermiller, who entered eternal life on February 9th, 2006 and 2021 respectively.

Midweek Bible Class: To finish up a section of Judges, both groups agreed to meet one more time this week before the Lent break. The morning class will meet this Wednesday at 10:00 am. The evening class will meet this Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Our Midweek Lenten Services begin this week with our Ash Wednesday services at 3:15 pm and 6:00 pm. Dinner will be served after the 3:15 pm services, 4:15 pm until 5:45 pm. Cost per person: free-will offering; *children must be accompanied by an adult*. This week our menu is: Hot Dogs/Sloppy Joes, chips, veggie tray, dessert.

As in the past we are asking for desserts for the dinners; there is a sign-up sheet on the hall table. We also have a sign-up sheet for volunteers willing to help with the clean-up.

The race is on! Thank you to those who have already contributed to our school's Accelerated Reader Prize Patrol/Playground Equipment Replacement fundraiser. It's not too late to help out! Drop your change in one (or more) of the classroom jars outside in the church narthex. The classroom who collects the most change will win a pizza party! After week one, grades 1 - 8 have raised \$161.56. Grades 3 & 4, Miss Schleicher's class, is in the lead! Next is Mr. Paulsen's 7 & 8 grade class, followed by Miss Schwab's 5 & 6 class, and Mrs. Pretzer's grades 1 & 2.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the Boys A-Team Basketball Tournament next Friday, February 16th and Saturday, February 17th. We will need help in the following areas:

- Running the Clock/Scoreboard during the games
- Keeping the book for each of the games
- Admissions (taking money for admittance into the tournament)
- Concessions Sales
- Concessions Food Prep
- Making Popcorn
- Cleaning up Concessions after the last game
- Cleaning up the Gym after the last game

No experience necessary and we have instruction sheets for many of the jobs so that you can review to see what is entailed. Check out the poster in the Narthex and sign up where you are able to help us. Let's get involved and support our school!! Contact Amy Krager (989) 980-6991 with any questions!!

A new *Grow with Me* class, taught by our preschool director, Mrs. Laurie Peil, will begin next Monday, February 19th. This is a 4 week class that will run through Monday, March 18th (no class on February 26th). These classes are for 2 and 3-year-olds and an accompanying adult (Dad, Mom, Grandparent, etc.) This session will be held in the gym on Monday evenings from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm; use the Alp St. doors. The cost is \$25 for 4 weeks; application forms are available in the church and school offices.

Coming Up: Family Game night! Our Event Group is having a game night for families on February 23rd, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring your favorite board game(s) or cards and an appetizer to pass. Beverages will be provided. To help us with set-up, please let us know you are coming; a sign-up sheet is on the hall table.

Worship Service Attendance	2024	2023
Worship Service Attendance, 2/3 & 2/4	169	207
Communion Attendance, 2/3 & 2/4	146	151