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February 11. 2024

Today's theme:
A Glimpse of His True Glory

Welcome, guests! God's love welcomes you—no matter who you are or where you come from— and so do we. We believe that Jesus Christ is the true Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection he saves all sinners even without our help. Jesus Christ makes us special people, right with God and ready for life! We learn this from the Bible, God's authentic message of grace and guidance for us. Whether you are a first-time guest or a curious observer with little religious background, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

If you would like to know more about Lamb of God, visit our website www.lambofgodlafayette.com, like us on Facebook, Instagram and/or YouTube. Lamb of God is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS (www.wels.net) est.1850.

Children's "My Worship Notes" are included in another document. They can be used by children of any age to keep notes during the service.

A Glimpse of His True Glory - We began this worship series in the Jordan River. At his baptism, Jesus heard his Father's glorious voice: "You are my Son, whom I love" (Mark 1:11). From that day, in word and deed, Jesus began to reveal more about himself. He demonstrated the extent of his authority and power and love. Along the way, we had an epiphany. Jesus has to be the very Son of God! Yet, Jesus looked so normal, like an ordinary carpenter or your average rabbi or just another prophet. Until today. We have traveled from the river to the mountain. Today, on the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus gives us a glimpse of his true glory. As we see him in his dazzling brilliance, the Father speaks again, this time to us: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

This final epiphany prepares us for the journey of Lent where we will witness the most glorious work that Jesus would do when he came down from this mountain.

WELCOME

INVOCATION

[We invoke, that is, call up on the name of the Triune God, to be present with us through Word and Sacrament. The sign of the cross is made to remind believers of their baptism in the name of the Triune God.]

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

CW 385 | Christ Begins

Please stand.

CONFESSION CW 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

ABSOLUTION

[The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" (The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?). See John 20:21-23]

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.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY (Kyrie)

CW 190

[**Kyrie** is the Greek word for **Lord**. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.]

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST (Gloria in Excelsis)

CW 191

THE WORD

[Like Mary, we sit at the feet of Jesus to hear his Word (Luke 10:39).]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[The Prayer of the Day compliments the theme of the day.]

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.

Amen.

Be seated.

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 and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel."

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

³The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "so be quiet."

⁴Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

⁵The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet."

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan."

And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on.

⁷Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?"

"Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

¹⁰"You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not."

¹¹As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹²Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!"

The Word of the Lord.

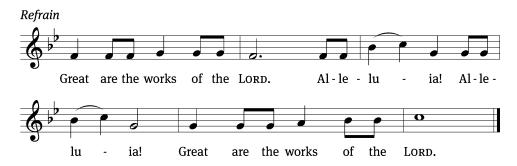
Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2D | Great Are the Works of the Lord

[As they worshiped, Old Testament believers responded to readings from the Scriptures by singing psalms. We continue this custom in the divine service.]

*Congregation will sing the refrain. Congregation is invited to sing the verses along with the soloist.





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- / nointed. 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 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.]

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[It has been a tradition in the Christian church to stand for the reading of the gospel for the past 2,000 years. Just as subjects rise when a king speaks, we rise out of respect for the words of our King.]

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 9:7

The Gospel Acclamation is a familiar scripture that compliments the theme of the day and prepares our hearts to hear the Gospel reading.

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 true glory.]

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

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

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children are invited to sit in the front of the sanctuary.

HYMN OF THE DAY

CW 388 | Down from the Mount of Glory

[The Hymn of the Day is chosen because of its strong connection to the Gospel reading.]

SERMON

based on 2 Kings 2:1-12a

The Christian's Transfiguration

CONFESSION OF FAITH

† Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. The word creed comes from the Latin word "credo" which means I believe. The Apostles Creed is so named not because it was written by Jesus' apostles but because it is a brief statement of the gospel truths they taught. Its writing and use dates to the very early years of the Christian church.

Please stand.

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[The Prayer for the Church includes prayers for our brothers and sisters in our congregation. Since we belong to something bigger than ourselves, the Christian Church, we pray for the needs and struggles of all God's people on earth.]

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.

OFFERING

If you wish to give an offering:

- place it in the offering plate
- scan this QR code
- text any dollar amount to **84321**
- mail a check to the church—1893 E 600 North, West Lafayette, IN 47906
- go to the church website <u>www.lambofgodlafayette.com</u> and click **GIVE** in the upper right corner.



CW 390 | Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain



THE BLESSING

[The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).]

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.

Amen.

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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Serving at Worship (2/11)

Vacancy Pastor: Bruce Marggraf

Piano: Liz Schmidt

Usher/Greeter: Beights family Acolyte: Kaylee Bednarski

Livestream: Amanda & Lauren Schoonmaker

Refreshments: Becker family

Serving Next Sunday (2/18)

Vacancy Pastor: Bruce Marggraf

Piano: Liz Schmidt

Usher/Greeter: Graves family

Acolyte: Dax Graves Livestream: TBD

Refreshments: Volunteer needed

Serving Ash Wednesday (2/14)

Vacancy Pastor: Bruce Marggraf

Piano: Liz Schmidt

Usher/Greeter: Dawn Sanders

Acolyte: Dax Graves

Livestream: Schoonmaker family Refreshments: Volunteer needed

This Week's Activities

- Sun, Feb 11 Bible Study 9:15am
 - Worship Service 10:30am
 - Catechism class after service
 - Music & Art Camp Planning Meeting after service (all are welcome)
- Wed, Feb 14 Ash Wednesday Service at LoG 7pm
- Thu, Feb 15 Thursday work night at the church 7-9pm (through April)

Save the Date (More info to come via the weekly e-newsletter)

- Wed, Feb 14 Ash Wednesday service led by Pastor Margraff 7pm
- Thu, Feb 15 Thursday work night at the church 7-9pm (through April)
- Sat, Feb 17 Outside work day at LoG (1-4pm) with Chili Cook-off to follow (4-7pm)
- Thu, Feb 22 Mornings with Mommy 9:45-11am (every other Thursday)
 - Thursday work night at the church 7-9pm (through April)
- Sun, Mar 3 Call Meeting after the morning service
- Thu, Mar 28 Maundy Thursday service led by Pastor Margraff 7pm
- Fri, Mar 29 Good Friday service led by Pastor Margraff 7pm
- Sun, Mar 31 Easter Sunday with a pot-luck brunch following the service 10:30am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Bible Study - Sunday's at 9:15am.

We will read the gospel of John starting at the beginning, discuss what St. John wrote, and apply it to our lives today. Come and learn with us, your faith will be strengthened!

Want to know more about upcoming events at LoG? If so, sign up for the weekly email by providing your email address in the Friendship Register on your row or contact the church office at loginlafayette@gmail.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

For all those in our midst who may be dealing with physical ailments, including Denise Gilmore (Diane Brady's sister), Kyle Correll (son of Judy and Don), Jim Holmes and Joan Bonnet; for all those who are suffering from abuse in the home, that they might seek help.

For Lamb of God, that the Good Shepherd will lead and sustain the congregation through the vacancy and that he will provide another shepherd soon.

For the new WELS mission in London, England, that the Lord would bless our efforts in spreading the Gospel.

For the families, friends and colleagues of the five fallen Marines who lost their lives when their helicopter crashed outside San Diego on Tuesday, February 7, 2024.

For those affected by the two tornadoes south of Madison on Friday. February 9, 2024.

NOTES