THE MATINS SERVICE OF PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

The Transfiguration Of Our Lord

February 14, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Although many travelers to the Holy Land focus their visits on biblical sites located in Israel, there are many noteworthy sacred locations in today's nation of Jordan, on the east side of the Jordan River. Two of these sites are the site called Tell Mar Elias, by tradition the place where the prophet Elijah was born, and Elijah's Hill, near the Jordan River location of Jesus' Baptism, where it is said that Elijah ascended to heaven in the whirlwind. Both sites were the location of notable Christian churches centuries ago. Elijah has long been remembered and honored by Christian people as a precursor to Jesus and an important historical figure of faith. Yet Elijah was a human being—just like us. His presence on the Mount of Transfiguration with Jesus and Moses reminds us



of what is to come for us humans by God's grace for the sake of our glorious and glorified Lord Jesus Christ.

PRELUDE "Alleluia Sing to Jesus" WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

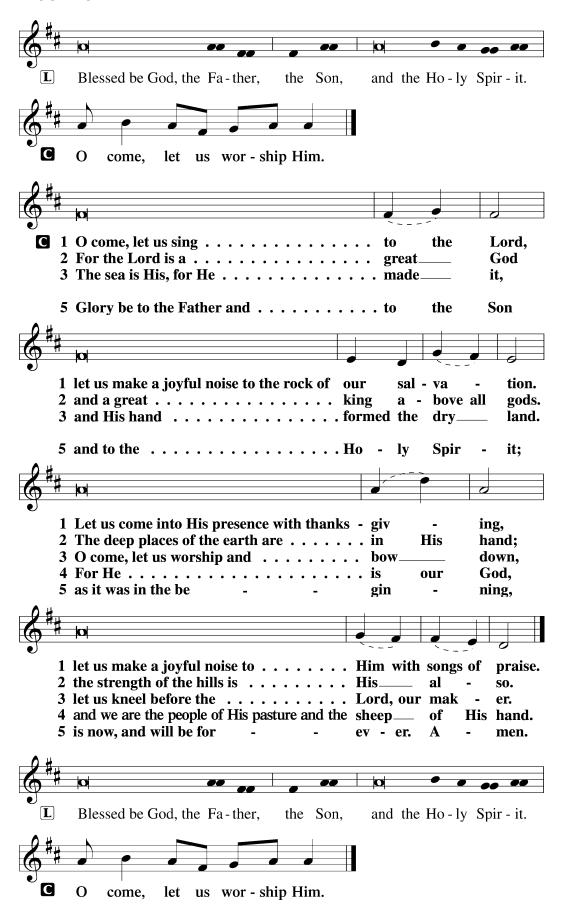
Handbell Choir Pastor Stephen Heimer

Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1



INVOCATION

Psalm 95:1-7, with antiphon



PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 50:1–6

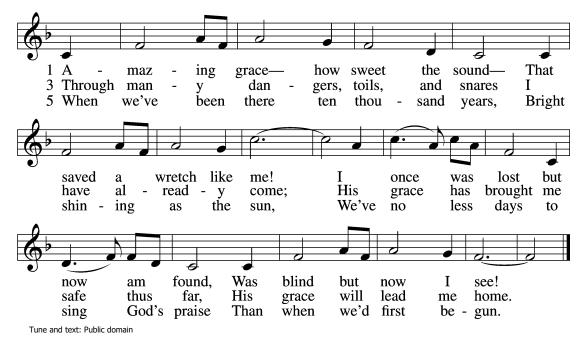
¹The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. ²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. ³Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest. ⁴He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people: ⁵"Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!" ⁶The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P O God, our Father, we admit and confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.
- Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.
- P We confess that we have not always brought glory to You through our words and our deeds.
- Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.
- P We repent of all that is sinful in our lives, both that which we know and those things unknown to us that are against Your righteous laws.
- Have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord.
- P Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.
- Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Amazing Grace" v.1,3,5 LSB 744



OLD TESTAMENT

(Elijah goes up to heaven in a whirlwind.)

2 Kings 2:1-12

¹When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²And Elijah said to Elisha, "Please 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. ³And the sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he said, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." ⁴Elijah said to him, "Elisha, please 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. ⁵The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet." ⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Please 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. ¬Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the

Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground. ⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." ¹⁰And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." ¹¹And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

(Paul writes of God's people being transformed.)

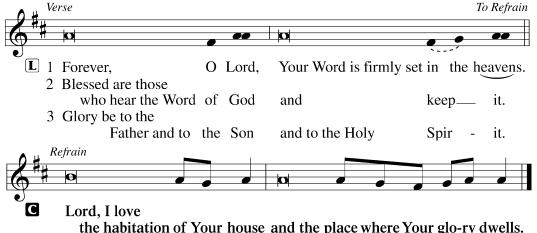
2 Corinthians 3:12–18; 4:1–6

¹²Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. ¹Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. ²But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. ⁴In 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. ⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



Psalm 119:89 26:8 Luke 11:28



GOSPEL

(Jesus is transfigured on a high mountaintop.)

Mark 9:2-9

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

²After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." ⁸And suddenly, looking around, they

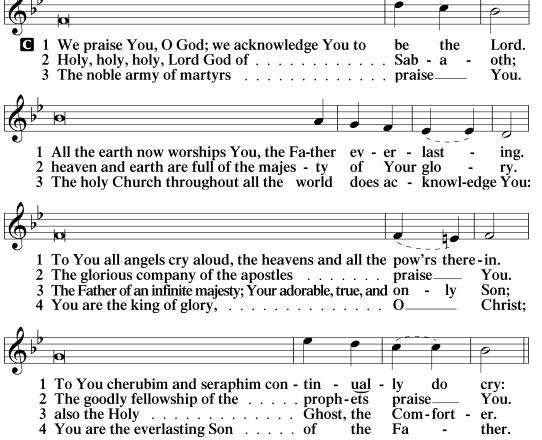
no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. ⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

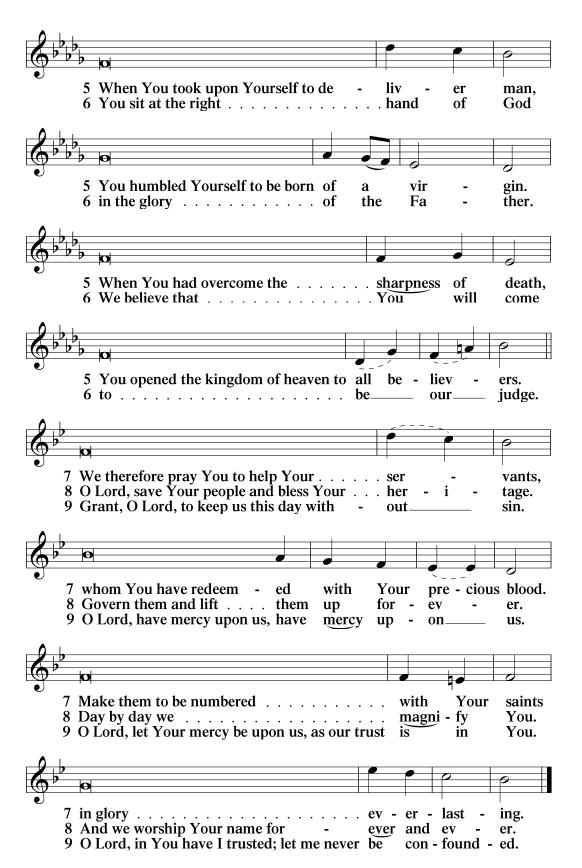
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.







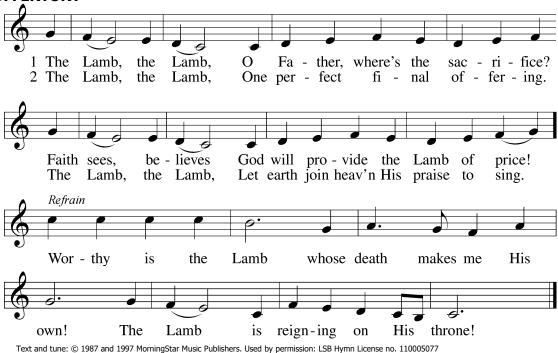


OFFERING

Sonata in G minor by Henry Eccles

Gabryelle Rodriguez, String Bass





LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

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.



Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Dear heavenly Father, on the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus revealed His light and glory to Peter, James, and John. Embolden us to proclaim Christ's light and glory to the ends of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Lord, Peter, James, and John heard Your voice on the mountaintop. Help us to heed Your voice and Your Word that comes to us in the Scriptures. Strengthen us to listen to Your voice rather than the voice the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord, comfort all those who are suffering in grief, [especially . . .]. Console them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal peace and life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Lord, Peter reminds us that no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but all prophets are carried along by the Holy Spirit. Send Your Spirit to call, gather, enlighten, sanctify, and keep Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord, You have shined the light of Christ on the world. Help us reflect Your light to those who are experiencing the darkness of the world. Bring community to the lonely, stability to those in transition, and safety to all those who have suffered abuse. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [especially . . .]. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

- Lord, we commend all of these things to Your infinite mercies, which are new every morning. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

COLLECT FOR GRACE

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICAMUS



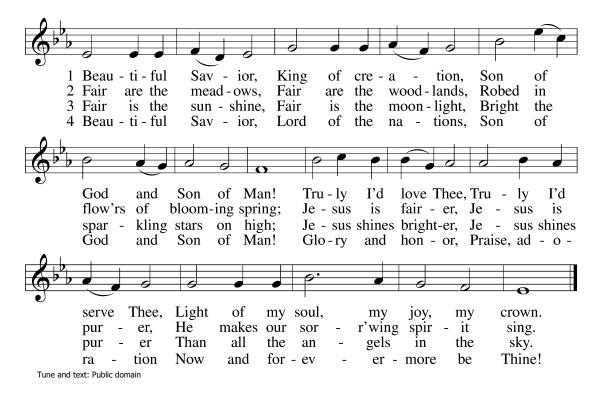


BENEDICTION

- The grace of our Lord
 → Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Beautiful Savior" LSB 537



VALENTINES DAY!

On February 14, we commemorate Valentine, Martyr. The word "martyr" reminds us that Valentine died for confessing his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. For eighteen hundred years, Valentine's faithful witness has inspired Christian people to faith-filled words and loving deeds. A physician and priest in Rome during the rule of Emperor Claudius, Valentine lived in a time when Christians were harshly persecuted because of their religion. Arrested by Roman authorities, he received a death sentence. Tradition suggests that while Valentine was waiting in prison for his day of execution, he developed a friendship with the young daughter of his jailer. He told the girl about Jesus and shared his hope of heaven. On the day of his execution, he left her a note cut into a special shape. Written inside was a message of affection and encouragement. He signed the letter "your Valentine," beginning a tradition that has changed and grown through the centuries. Love for Christ and love in Christ shaped the actions of Valentine.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Liturgist: Pastor Stephen Heimer

Organist: David Garcia
Elder: Jim Smith
Acolyte: Haley Nathan
Camera Operator: Jaden Heimer
Sound Director: Brenna Rodriquez

Offering Counter: Jim Smith

THIS WEEK AT ZION

2/16	Tuesday	5:30 PM	Confirmation Class
		7:00 PM	Eastside Bible Study
2/17	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Communion Service
2/19	Friday	10:00 AM	Women's Bible Study
2/21	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Exodus" Bible Study
		10:30 AM	Worship Service

Offerings

You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at www.zionelpaso.org. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

Altar flowers today are given to the glory of God by Wayne and Mariann Porter in loving memory of Mariann's mother, Lorraine Tapply's birthday. Thanks be to God for His countless blessings!

Voters' Meeting. Our next Voters' Meeting will take place **TODAY, Sunday, February 14th**, immediately after the worship service. This meeting will be available both on Zoom and in-person in the Zion auditorium. The Zoom link was included in the RSVP email sent on Thursday, February 11th.

Ash Wednesday Service, February 17th, **at 7:00pm.** Join us this Wednesday at 7:00pm for our Ash Wednesday communion service. On Ash Wednesday, the ashes remind of our need for cleansing, scrubbing, and purifying which comes in Christ alone. To focus on the Word of God, not worrying about covid-19, the ashes will be applied using a separate Q-tip for each person. Masks that cover the mouth and nose will be worn and worshippers will be ushered to the front one household at a time. When each person in the household has received the ashes and heard the words of Gospel promise, they may return to their seats to pray silently, meditate on a psalm, or sing the Lenten hymns.

Lenten Food Collection for the Ysleta Lutheran Mission: LWML will be collecting non-perishable food items to assist YLM in their weekly food distribution during the Season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. We are, once again, inviting the congregation to join us in this Lenten outreach project. Items may be placed in the designated location in the Auditorium or dropped off at the church office.

** Food items most needed right now are: small bags of rice, beans, and flour, as well as boxes of cereal.** Thanks, in advance, for your support of this project!

Lenten Services on Wednesdays. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Zion will have mid-week services throughout the season of Lent. These services will be on Wednesdays at 7:00pm, in-person in the Zion sanctuary and livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. Refer to our website for weekly posts on the upcoming Lenten service, including an RSVP form for each service and a link to the livestream. Our schedule of mid-week services is shown below.

Genesis 3:19	"Bold Solution" (Ash Wed.)
Mark 11:15-19	"Bold Action"
Mark 12:28-37	"Bold Questions"
Matthew 23:1-12	"Bold Teaching"
John 12:23-36	"Bold Final Appearance"
	Mark 12:28–37 Matthew 23:1–12

This Week's Memory Verse



View more from Zion's "At Home in the Word" on our website: https://www.zionelpaso.org/at-home



Zion Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Visit our website: zionelpaso.org

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/zionlutheranelpaso/



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