



The Festival of the
TRANSFIGURATION
of our **LORD**

From the River to the Mountain
A Glimpse of Glory

Grace Lutheran Church
February 11, 2024



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – YORBA LINDA

*Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace
in the land of gracious living*

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Welcome

- ✚ **Restrooms** are located across the breezeway just inside the doors to our Grace Hall.
- ✚ **A cry room/nursery room** for parents needing to quiet small children is located at the back of the chapel. The room is equipped with chairs and toys and offers audio of our services.
- ✚ There is **coffee** located across the breezeway in the Grace Hall.
- ✚ If you would like to know more about Grace - Yorba Linda, visit our **website** at www.gracelutheran.church. A **membership** class, a class that covers the basic teachings of the Bible and what it means to be a Christian, is meeting right now and we would love to have you join us. Speak to Pastor Sievert for more information. We would also love to share information with you about our Sunday worship services, our weekly Bible Classes, and our youth programs. We look forward to visiting with you.



*Grace Lutheran Church
is a member of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
and the federation of
California Lutheran High School*

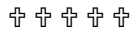


The Last Sunday after Epiphany



We began this worship series a month ago in the Jordan River. There at Jesus' baptism, his Father's glorious voice proclaimed, "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.

Today, on a mountain, 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!"



INVOCATION

We start with a reminder of God's baptismal claim on our lives.

L: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

C: It is good for us to be here!

Mark 9:5

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8,9

L: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children.

C: It is good for us to be here!

L: But who of us deserves to be in his presence and to see his glory? The Bible makes it clear that we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C

L: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as God's only Son, full of grace and truth.

Because of his blessed departure to death for all people, you are made his dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: It is good for us to be here!

♩ **5 But you, Lord, do not stay.**

With mercy resolute

**You leave this glorious hill to die -
our perfect substitute.**

How good, Lord, to be here!

Yet we may not remain;

**But since you bid us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: 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.

C: Amen.

On the holy mountain God said,

“This is my Son, whom I love.

Listen to him.”

GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

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.

PSALM 2

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:2-9

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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ Begins #385

SERMON based on 2 Kings 2:1-12a

When 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!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

C: 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.

L: For 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*.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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;
and 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 and the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S BLESSING

- L:** 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.
- C: Amen.**