

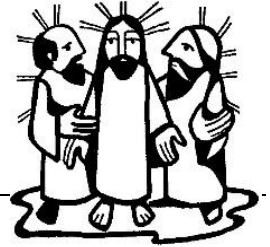


## St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

*"A Legacy of Worship and Outreach in San Antonio since 1857"*

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February 23, 2020  
**Transfiguration of Our Lord**



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### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God...*

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## **Prelude    Improvisation on the introit for the Feast of the Transfiguration "Illuxérunt coruscationes tuae orbi terrae"**

Thy lightnings enlightened the world: the earth shook and trembled.  
How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord...

## **Bells**

## **Welcome**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Eternal Voice from heaven,  
the Anointed and Beloved One,  
the Spirit moving over the waters. **Amen.**

As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,  
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

God who searches us and knows us:  
**You have shown us what is good,  
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.  
We have not been just in our dealings with others.  
We have chosen revenge over mercy.  
We have promoted ourselves  
instead of walking humbly with you.  
With what shall we come before you?  
Forgive us our sin,  
and show us your salvation  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Beloved of God:  
Do not receive the spirit of this world,  
but the Spirit that is from God,  
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.  
Receive the promise of baptism,  
that you are God's child; † and your sins are forgiven.  
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven. **Amen.**

**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.**

**Canticle of Praise**

*Setting 3*

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture and preaching; we respond in profession of faith and prayer*

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### 2 Peter 1:16-21

*At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.*

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

<sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 2

*(The choir will lead the responses.)*

<sup>1</sup>Why are the nations | in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter | empty threats?

<sup>2</sup>**Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes | plot together, against the LORD and against the | LORD's anointed?**

<sup>3</sup>"Let us break their | yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their | bonds from us."

<sup>4</sup>**God whose throne is in heav- | en is laughing; the LORD holds them | in derision. R**

<sup>5</sup>Then in wrath God | speaks to them, and in rage fills | them with terror.

<sup>6</sup>**"As for me, I have anoint- | ed my king upon Zion, my | holy mountain."**

<sup>7</sup>Let me announce the decree | of the LORD, who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- | gotten you.

<sup>8</sup>**Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for | your inheritance and the ends of the earth for | your possession. R**

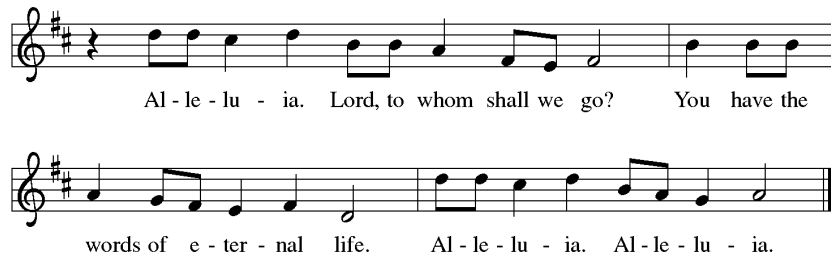
<sup>9</sup>You shall crush them with an | iron rod and shatter them like a | piece of pottery."

<sup>10</sup>**And now, you | kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers | of the earth.**

<sup>11</sup>Submit to the | LORD with fear, and with trembling | bow in worship;

<sup>12</sup>**lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden | blaze of wrath. Happy are all who take ref- | uge in God! R**

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Cantor: Alleluia. This is my | Son, my Chosen,\* lis- | ten to him! Alleluia. (Luke 9:35)*

## The Holy Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

*Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.*

The good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children are invited to go to their Sunday lesson and activity. They will return at Holy Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany them.*

**Sermon**

**Pastor James Dew**

**Hymn of the Day**

**"How Good, Lord, to Be Here!"**

**ELW #315**

## **Apostles' Creed**

With the whole Church in heaven and on earth, we confess our faith...

**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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Each petition concludes: "Hear us, O God," The congregation responds: **"Your mercy is great."***

*We hold in prayer: Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Claudine Michalek, Arlene Schirmer, Harold Spivey, Kim Friesenhahn, Kenny Knippa, Amy Kosob, Nat Castillo, Janie McWhirter, Tia Mathre-Adams.*

*For prayer requests and updates, please contact the church office  
(210) 223-2611 or [info@StJohnsSA.org](mailto:info@StJohnsSA.org)*

## **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*(Please share with those nearest you these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")*

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## MEAL

*We bring our "first fruit" offerings to the Table of the Lord  
where we are strengthened and nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ*

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**Offering**

**"O Nata Lux"**

**Lauridsen**

O Light born of Light,  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
with loving-kindness deign to receive  
suppliant praise and prayer.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh  
for the sake of the lost,  
grant us to be members  
of thy blessed body.

**Offertory Hymn**

**"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"**

**ELW #182**

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
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## Offertory Prayer

God of wonder,

**We bring our gifts to your table, together with our lives and all that you have made. Open the heavens to us and pour out your Spirit. We wait for your mercy; we long for your peace; we hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ, our banquet of life. Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

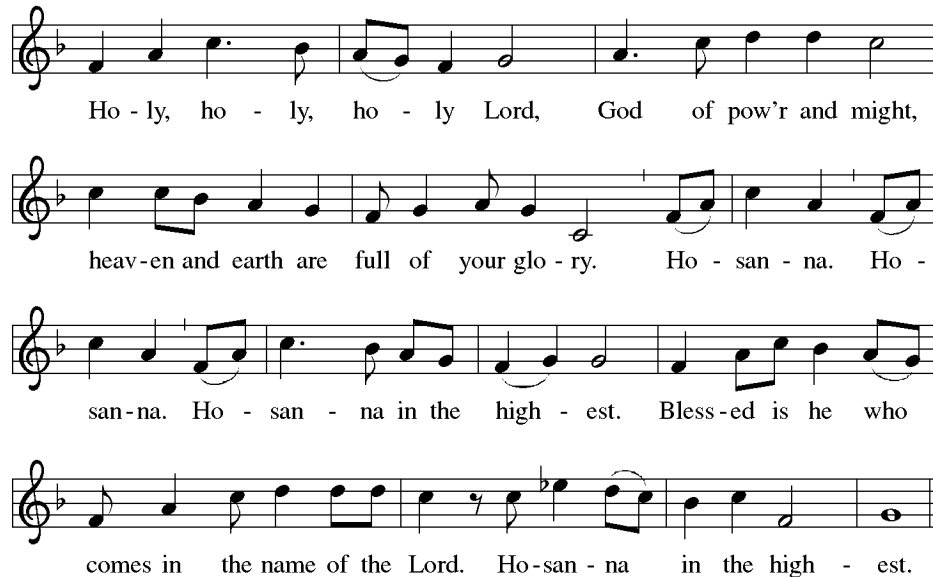
Lift up your hearts.

**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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Holy, Mighty, and Merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love for us and for all your creation, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who took upon himself our own flesh and blood, who showed us your face, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

For on 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, as often as you drink of it, for the remembrance of me.

As we bind ourselves to his life, his death, and his rising, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, upon these gifts of this bread and wine, and upon all who come to your table seeking your touch upon their lives. Shape us to be a kingdom people, living out your vision for our world. Transform us, that we may be your vessels of hope, mercy, justice, and peace. And work through us, that we, who are truly abundant in gifts beyond measure, might share from all you give us, for the sake of the life of the world.

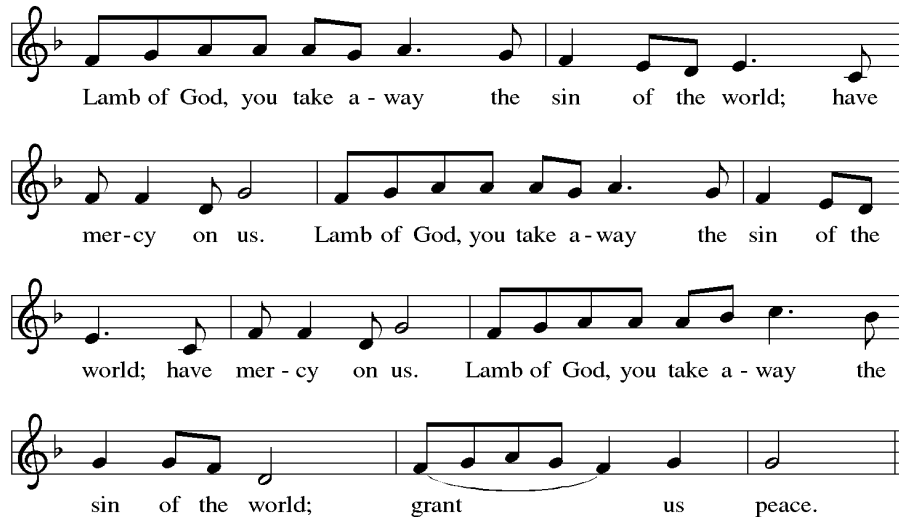
*(Intoned)* Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remember us, Lord, in your kingdom, and help us to pray:

**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.**

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, who welcomes you to his table of mercy and joy.

## Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Holy Communion

*We believe that Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and we welcome all who wish to receive the Holy Sacrament. Please follow the direction of the ushers. A gluten free host is available upon request.*

## Communion Hymns

ELW # 493 *Taste and See  
Beautiful Savior* (Choir)



## Communion Blessing

## Communion Prayer

Faithful God,  
You have kept your promise to us in this meal,  
nourishing us with the gift of salvation.  
Now send your servants forth in peace,  
that we may testify to your goodness  
and share the hope that is ours  
in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world*

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## Announcements

## Benediction

May Christ, the wisdom and power of God,  
and the source of our life together,  
keep you united in mind and purpose.  
And the blessing of Almighty God,  
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be with you always. **Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

***"We Are Marching in the Light"***

**ELW #866**

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

**Fantasia in F Major by Dietrich Buxtehude**

***The Altar flowers are in recognition of  
the Baptism of Charlotte Monroe Moreno  
and  
Robert Cauble's birthday.***

## **Worship Leaders**

Presiding Minister + Pastor James Dew

Assisting Minister + Karen Knudson

Lector + Debbie Arnold

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*Worship is central to who we are as a people of God. Every time we gather to hear and respond to the Word, to offer up our prayers for the needs of many, and to receive Christ's living presence in the consecrated bread and wine, we seek to "become what we receive", namely, the Body of Christ for the sake of the life of the world. As we are gathered, fed, and then sent back out in mission, God empowers us to be bearers of blessing and vessels of grace, commissioning us to intentionally live out the reign of God throughout the course of our weekly living.*

## **This week at St. John's**

Mon 24 • Property Team Meeting 6:15 PM

Wed 26 • Word, Silence and Prayer 12:15 PM

Wed 26 • Campus Ministry Dinner 6:00 PM

Wed 26 • Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 PM

Thu 27 • Finance Team Meeting 9:30 AM

Thu 27 • Women's Retreat Reunion Meeting 6:00 PM

*Please see the current month's Tidings for other calendar events.*

**Financial Reports and Council Minutes are available in the church office by request.**

## **Liturgical Calendar Commemorations**

### **Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156**

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**

Because he was a disciple of the Apostle John and known by the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to offer incense to the emperor.

### **Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, died 1921**

**Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.