

The Transfiguration of Our Lord: March 2, 2025

Connecting People to Jesus, Cultivating Meaningful Lives, and Contributing to God's Kingdom Work, Together



320 Montrose Drive, Folsom, CA 95630

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Welcome

Hymn of Invocation 413 O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair

Invocation

- \blacksquare In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

- **P** Jesus, take us to the mountain, where, with Peter, James, and John,
- **C** we are dazzled by Your glory, light as blinding as the sun.
- **P** There prepare us for the night
- **C** by the vision of that sight.
- P What do You want us to hear there, that Your dear disciples heard?
- **C** Once again the Voice from heaven says of the Incarnate Word:
- **P** "Listen, listen, everyone,
- **C** This is My beloved Son!"

Confession and Absolution

- **P** We confess our sin to God our Father.
- **C** God of mercy and forgiveness, God of revelation and promise, we confess that we are burdened with sin—sin that consumes, unravels, deceives, and stifles faith. Enable us by Your Word to increase our willingness to bear our crosses, resist temptation, and follow You alone! In our journey, let us continually wage war against Satan and adversaries who would seek to eclipse Your glory.
- P Almighty God, we have seen Your glory in the transfiguration of Jesus, Your only-begotten Son. We join in the lineage of prophets and

apostles, believing in the glory and the cross of Jesus. Crucify our sins on that cross. Envelop us in the light of His glory in these words: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.



Sharing of the Peace

Following the absolution, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in *the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

In the service of the Word, God grants us His grace through the reading and preaching of His Word. Wherever His Word is, there He promises to be (Matt 18:20). The words of Holy Scripture are to "make [us] wise unto salvation (2 Timothy 3:15)." They do this but not by simply talking about Jesus but giving Jesus to us who crucified for our sins and raised for our justification. The Word of God is the Word of Life.

Kyrie

- **P** Behold Moses, from the tribe of Levi, prophet of Yahweh, and yet a sinner and thus denied access into the Promised Land.
- **C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- **P** Behold Elijah, a mighty prophet, judge of Israel, and yet a wounded sinner, hungry, afraid, and depressed.
- **C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
- **P** Behold Peter, James, and John, bold confessors, preachers, disciples, witnesses, and sinners.
- **C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord have mercy.
- **P** And behold Jesus, the transfigured Son of God, the source of all comfort, defender against adversity, and fountain of grace.
- **C** Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 34:1–12

¹Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar. ⁴And the LORD said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there." ⁵So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD, ⁶and he buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Bethpeor; but no one knows the place of his burial to this day. ⁷Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated. ⁸And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

⁹And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses. ¹⁰And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, ¹¹none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the

land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, ¹²and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 3:1–6

¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Kids Message

Let the word of Christ / dwell in you richly Teaching and admonishing / one another in all wisdom, Singing psalms and hymns / and spiritual songs, With thankfulness in your heart (thankfulness in your heart) Thankfulness in your heart / to God Colossians 3:16

Verse

Psalm 45:2a

- P Alleluia. You are the most handsome of the sons of men;
- **C** grace is poured upon Your lips. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the ninth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings [Jesus] took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"-not knowing what he said. ³⁴As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" ³⁶And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

Sermon Benefits from the Mountain Top Pastor Vang

Creed

Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead. whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole church of God in Christ and for all who bear crosses and yet seek to follow Jesus.

As the people of God, let us remember and treasure the saints of old, who struggled to guide and admonish God's people, trusting in His plan. Encourage us by their unwavering witness, determined leadership, and inordinate sacrifice.

- **C** As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, sharing not only in His glory but also is His suffering.
- **C** As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, transfigured, glorified, punished, and crucified.
- **C** As living saints, give us courage to immerse ourselves into the redemption story of Jesus, generous in forgiveness, patience, understanding, and kindness. Help us to see the light of fellow believers, understanding that the crosses they bear are both visible and invisible to us.

Additional prayers for the burdens and crosses of individual members may be included.

- **P** We commend to You, O Lord, the lives of all the witnesses of Your glory and heirs of Your eternal promises. In the name of the Father and of the X Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Offering



Service of the Sacrament

Grace upon grace. Having received God's grace through the Word and promises of Jesus, God now serves us grace by feeding us His Son's body and blood which is "true food and true drink (John 6:55)" for the forgiveness of sins. In this portion of the service, we gather with angelic hosts and the saints triumphant where Jesus promises to be: in this meal of bread and wine. "It is beard and wine set within God's Word and bound to it (Luther's Large Catechism)."

We confess that our Lord Jesus Christ has instituted the Lord's Supper to be a Sacrament, a means of grace. In, with, and under the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus as he has spoken. His body and blood are set aside for his baptized disciples to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you desire the gifts, come and receive what's meant for you.

If you hold to a different confession, are unsure of what this meal is, or are unbaptized, but desire the gifts, please talk with pastor after service about our formation process. In the meantime, we invite you to come up and cross your arms over your chest at the table in order to receive a blessing.

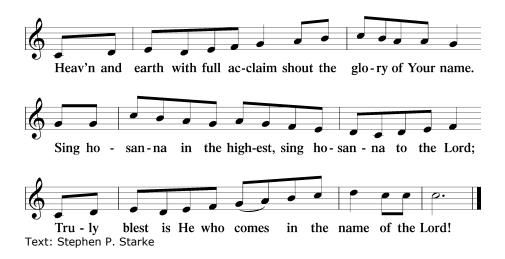
Preface

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

- Blessed are You, O Lord, whose voice rained down from heaven, declaring Jesus Your only Son and bidding all of us to listen to Him. In our frail flesh, wounded by burdensome crosses, known and unknown, make our hearts receptive, our minds keenly focused on Your Words of promise, and our ears opened to hearing divine truths. By Your Holy Spirit, inspire us to treasure the glory of Jesus, transfigured, but also crucified, that we may thoroughly believe by faith the entire redemption narrative. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the

forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

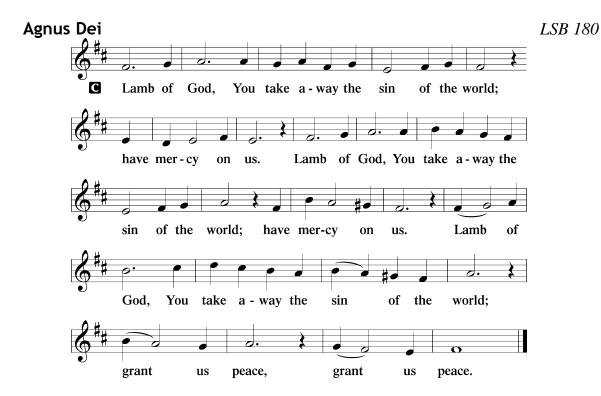
- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **C** Amen.



Distribution Anthem Hymn of Transfiguration (small group)

Seeing your glory in the face of your Son, Hearing his words, and knowing what he has done, Now we pray that just what we behold In him we may become.

That, as the prophets spoke in days long before, We may be heirs through faith with him we adore: With the Spirit and with you he reigns Now and forever more.

537 Beautiful Savior

Nunc Dimittus (to the tune of the Doxology)

Lord, let Your servants go in peace; Your covenant shall never cease. The promised Savior here we see; His blood and body set us free.

For all the nations He is light For Israel, glory in plain sight. To Father, Son, and Spirit sing Three persons, yet forever one.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, source of divine nourishment, through Your Holy Word, body, and blood, You increase our faith and courage to bear our crosses in the name of Jesus, glorified and crucified. At this Table, You unite us with the myriad of saints who have preceded us. Together, past, present, and future, we are believing heirs of Your eternal promises. We are witnesses of Christ's life, suffering, death, and resurrection. Prepare us for our eternal glory, where we will reside with You in Jerusalem, our eternal home.

C Amen.

Mission Statement

- P: Our Lord is returning soon and He has given to us His Word... so that we might ...
- C: Connect to Jesus, Cultivate a meaningful life, and Contribute to God's Kingdom work, together.

Benediction

 ● God the Father bless you as chosen sons and daughters—witnesses of Christ's glory. May the vivid transfiguration of Jesus flood you with light and life.
 Through His cross, may He grant you endurance and faithfulness in living lives filled with unending grace and mercy. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn of Sending By Faith

By faith we see the hand of God In the light of creation's grand design In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth With the power of His promise in their hearts Of a holy city built by God's own hand A place where peace and justice reign

We will stand as children of the promise We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward 'Til the race is finished and the work is done We'll walk by faith and not by sight

By faith the prophets saw a day When the longed-for Messiah would appear With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost To deliver captives and to preach good news In every corner of the earth (**Chorus**)

By faith this mountain shall be moved And the power of the gospel shall prevail For we know in Christ all things are possible For all who call upon His name

We will stand as children of the promise We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward 'Til the race is finished and the work is done We'll walk by faith and not by sight Oh, we will stand as children of the promise We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward 'Til the race is finished and the work is done We'll walk by faith and not by sight We'll walk by faith and not by sight CCLI #522161

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Acknowledgments

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Worship Leader	Rev. Daniel Vang
Elders	Eric Baer
Musicians	Musicians: Fred Weber (keys/vocals); Lana Sullivan
	(flute/vocals); Melvin Fong (violin/vocals); Debby Weber
	(vocals); Todd Weber (guitar/vocals); Krista Hess
	(guitar/vocals)
Readers	Bruce Betts, Eric Baer, Norma Ceccardi, Andrew
	Donnelley, Karla Lardner
Ushers	Norm and Karen Fontaine-Benedict
Altar Guild	Corrine Vanacore

Serving Him this Week

CONNECT

Sunday Service with Communion

Please join us for Sunday service at 10am. If you are not able to join us in person, our Sunday Services will be available on YouTube or Facebook. You can access the links on our website at <u>www.mountolivefolsom.com</u>.

Sunday School

We have an Elementary School class and a Jr High/High School class that meets in the Annex from 9:00am-9:45am. Teachers and subs still needed. Contact Elisse at <u>council.educ.molc@gmail.com</u>

Lenten/Easter Services

March 5, Ash Wednesday Service 11am and 6pm April 17, Maundy Thursday 6pm (Seder Meal) April 18, Good Friday 6pm April 20, Easter Sunday 6:20am, 10am with a pancake breakfast from 8-9:30am

Sunday Bible Study

Come and gather with us at 9am.

CULTIVATE

Directory Update

We are updating our member directory. If you would like to be included or wish to update, please fill out the insert found in your bulletin.

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies, we would like to invite you to our Tuesday Bible Study at 10am at 110 Dyrell Way in Folsom. We are beginning to study the 2nd part of the Gospel of Matthew. For more information, please call Inge at 916-983-0351.

CONTRIBUTE

Updated Address for Evan Traynelis

We have an updated address for Evan Traynelis who is serving overseas. His 21st birthday is ³/₄ and I'm sure he would love to receive a card from home.



Prayer Requests

Please pray for family members of Evonne and Richard Jr. Weiman. Danielle Marrelo who is going through breast cancer treatment and her daughter Haleigh who is having seizures.

Online Giving

There are two convenient ways to give online. Either by using the "Joyful Response Giving" on the website or via Paypal. Simply log on to your Paypal Account, select "SEND" and type in Mount Olive Lutheran Church of Folsom California. We always accept checks, but we do have a limit as to how many we can deposit monthly, so if online giving is an option for you, rest assured, it is easy, safe and secure.

SOW and Grow

Week of March 2, 2025

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

The Bible color coding is green for faith, obedience, growth, fruit, salvation, fellowship, and repentance. The purple ribbon can be seen woven in and out of the 23 row of the Sow and Grow tapestry.

Colossians 3:16

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

What does Paul mean when he says to "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly"? This sounds like a command, placing it in the category of Law! The Law is something we must DO, which is the opposite of good news! But as obedient Christians, we want to make sure we're following all the rules! Is there a checklist we can refer to? Indeed! The Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17 are a great place to begin, but our Lord gives us a briefer response in Matthew's Gospel when the Pharisees send a lawyer "to test him." The Pharisees were fantastic list-makers and box-checkers! But

they were threatened by Jesus tossing aside their checklists, then hanging around with people who didn't use them, either, namely, sinners! In response to the lawyer's question, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" Jesus' concise answer is profound: "You shall love the Lord you God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets" (Matt. 22:35-40).

Jesus didn't toss aside the Ten Commandments, or add more rules to create a bigger checklist. He summarized without minimizing. How do we love the Lord? By loving our neighbor. Put another way, love for our neighbor illustrates our love for God. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus rebuked the Pharisees, telling them that "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matt 12:34). And this is exactly what this week's Scripture verse, Colossians 3:16, is getting at! Read Colossians chapter 3:1-17 to put our verse in its context. In summary: through Baptism, we have died to idolatry because we have put on the new self. Who is that new self? Christ! Our "life is hidden with Christ in God" (Col. 3:3). This is not something we DO, but something that has been DONE for us! The Word of Christ DOES dwell in us richly because Christ dwells in us! Where do we hear God's Word proclaimed? Where do we sing songs, hymns, and spiritual songs? Each week when we gather to receive His gifts for us in the Divine Service. Where do we pray with thanksgiving? It is the new self, Christ's Spirit, "who intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words" (Rom. 8:26). Put your checklists away, everyone, because Colossians 3:16 is anything but LAW. Indeed, it is Gospel Truth for us!

