

**† SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION †**  
**The Transfiguration of Our Lord**  
**February 14, 2021**

**PRELUDE**

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Robert Hughes

**INVOCATION and CONFESSION** (*Congregation rising*)

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us first confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**INTROIT** (*from Psalm 48*)

P Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, His holy mountain.

**C It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth.**

P God is in her citadels; He has shown Himself to be her fortress.

**C As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord Almighty, in the city of our God: God makes her secure forever.**

P Within Your temple, O God, we meditate on Your unfailing love.

**C Like Your name, O God, Your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.**

P For this God is our God forever and ever;

**C He will be our guide even to the end.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

**C Holy God, You have revealed the glory of Your love in Jesus Christ, and have made us Your own. By Your Holy Spirit, help us to listen to Your Son and follow Him faithfully, that the light of Your gospel may shine in the darkness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

2 Kings 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "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. <sup>3</sup>The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." <sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, 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. <sup>5</sup>The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." <sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "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. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. <sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." <sup>10</sup>He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

<sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In 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. <sup>5</sup>For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA VERSE** (*Congregation rising*)

P Alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**C "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to Him!" Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

Mark 9:2-9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. <sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**MUSICAL REFLECTION**

Love Divine

Ronald Nelson

**SERMON** "Reflections on the Church Year: Love and Epiphany to Lent" (insert)  
Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

**THE APOSTLES' CREED** (*Congregation rising*)

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P Guided by Christ, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

P For the gospel proclaimed in word and deed, for communities of faith far and near, and for all who show the face of Christ throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P For all of creation; for sun, moon and stars; for mountains, clouds and streams; for new life and for creatures seen and unseen; and for guidance in our stewardship of God's creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P For those responsible for safety and protection; for emergency responders, community advocates, civil servants and leaders of governments, that they bear witness to God's mercy and justice throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P For all who are suffering, that the healing power of Christ transform sickness into health, loneliness into companionship, bereavement into consolation, and suffering into peace. We pray especially for all on our prayer line and those we remember now by name...(PAUSE). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P For our families, our companions on life's journey, and for this worshiping community; for loved ones who cannot be with us, and for guidance during the struggles we face, that God's glory is revealed around and among us. We pray especially for the faculty, staff and students of Concordia College and The Chapel School, and for the caring ministry of the Lutheran Counseling Center and the Wartburg. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P We give thanks for the faithful departed who now rest from their earthly pilgrimage, especially those dear to us, that their lives of service and prayer continue to inspire us in our daily living. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, hear our prayers for the sake of the One who dwells among us, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## † HOLY COMMUNION †

### **PREFACE** (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At the transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ, You revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood, that with all the faithful we may look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE**

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 covenant 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."

P Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

**C Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

P Take and eat, the body of Christ given for you...  
(*We eat the bread*)

P Take and drink, the blood of Christ, shed for you...  
(*We drink the cup*)

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our pilgrimage, that on the day of His coming, we may together with all Your saints celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

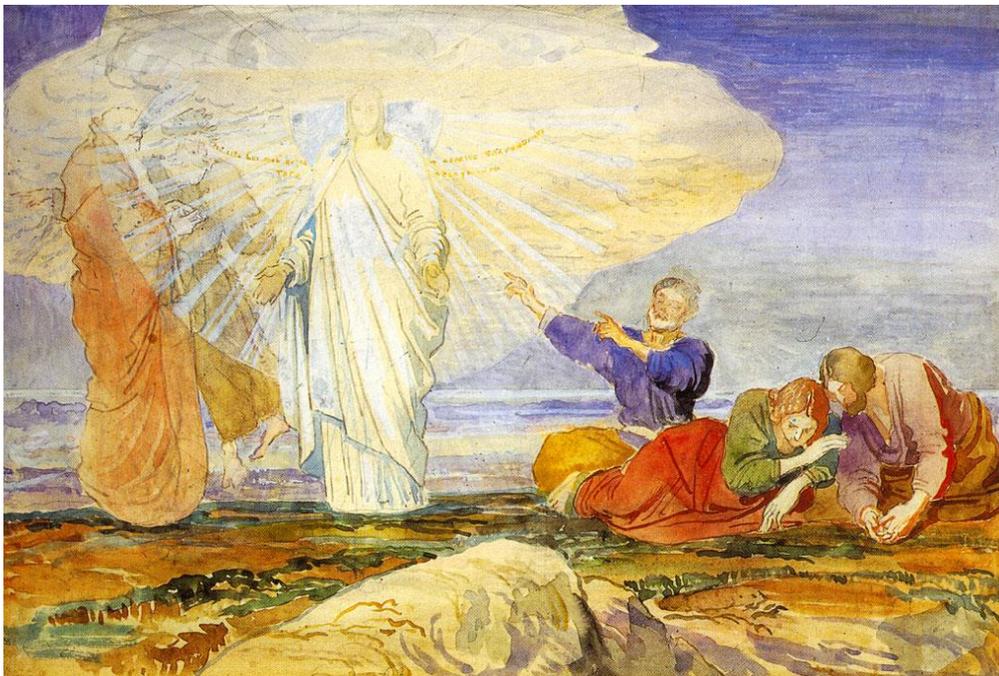
C Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

Anne Krentz Organ

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*Please wait for the pastor to proceed out of the sanctuary, then exit out of the building. Please also dispose of bulletins and used communion containers in the receptacles provided.*

*If you have any prayer requests or other information to share with the Church Office, you can fill out the back side of the Attendance Form and place it in the offering plate by the Jesus Fountain.*

## **News and Notes:**

**Ash Wednesday is February 17.** We will have two in-person services, at 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m., with Holy Communion and optional imposition of ashes. To minimize contact, the pastor will stand outside on the Great Porch after each service and use Q-tip swabs for the ashes. We will also have a virtual home prayer service online. Please note that The Chapel School is on winter break this week, so there will be plenty of parking and no other activities in the building.

**Lenten midweek prayer services** will be held remotely on Wednesdays, February 24 through March 24, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. This live event, led by our pastors, will include a brief Bible Study each week on the theme *God's Love is Shown*. There are three ways to access the service:

- ❖ Zoom Video (for computer or smart device) - Log on to Zoom.us using the ID 99439797879
- ❖ Call in via Zoom by phone - Dial (1) 929-205-6099 and then enter the Meeting ID 994 3979 7879
- ❖ Facebook Live - Go to [Facebook.com/VillageLutheranBronxville/live](https://www.facebook.com/VillageLutheranBronxville/live)

**If you have any prayer requests**, please fill out the back side of the Attendance Form or contact Kim Rapillo, Church Office Administrative Assistant, at 914-337-0207 x1003 or [KRapillo@VLC-NY.org](mailto:KRapillo@VLC-NY.org).

**Blessing Basket/Food for ECAP:** We continue to collect food donations for ECAP through the church. The Blessing Baskets are located by the piano in the Friendship Room. Please bring items there on weekends or leave them with the receptionist during the week. Outdoor drop-off in the Concordia parking lot is available on the third Thursday of the month. The next date is **February 18**.

**Women's Bible Study/LWML Group** has shifted to a remote format, available through Zoom video or telephone. The next meeting will be on **Saturday, February 20, at 9:00 a.m.** We will consider chapters 13-14 of the book *Just Enough Light for the Step I'm On, Trusting God in the Tough Times* by Stormie Omartian. For more information, check out the February issue of Village Voices or contact Deacon Wendy Krolides (914-391-9356) or Terry Vidal ([terry.n.vidal@gmail.com](mailto:terry.n.vidal@gmail.com)).

**SOUP KITCHEN MEALS:** Due to great need in the community, we have agreed to continue preparing meals twice a month, normally on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Due to a prior scheduling commitment at the Soup Kitchen, the next date will be on **Tuesday, February 23** (this is a change for February only). Please sign up in advance to choose your volunteer date and food item, pick up an aluminum tray (back of church or Reception Area), prepare food at home, and drop off at church between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Nelly Palumbo at 347-538-2909 or [NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org](mailto:NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org).

**E-Scam Alert:** Be careful of emails or texting that seem “strange,” even if they come from people you trust. If it seems out of character or tone, it’s likely a scammer trying to deceive you into giving them money, or more likely, gift cards. The message does not come from the “sender” and should be deleted. If you are unsure, do not reply or forward the message but call or email the person separately.

**Winter Worship Schedule** - The Saturday service has been temporarily suspended for the winter. We continue with two services on Sunday at 9:00 & 10:45 a.m., and hope to resume our full schedule of three services on the weekend of March 6-7.

**Easter Baskets:** Our annual service project for area children has begun. If you would like to participate in this effort to bring cheer and joy to a child, please pick up an empty basket from the back of the sanctuary and fill it with Easter treats (a list of suggested items is included). Wrap filled baskets in cellophane and return to the church for distribution at the MLK Head Start in New Rochelle. Baskets must be returned no later than **Sunday, March 21**. Thank you!

**1st Communion Instruction for 5th grade and older:** We normally offer this program during Lent, but due to the pandemic this year our classes will meet after Easter **beginning Wednesday April 14**. We hope to have all classes and the lock-in in person, but there will also be a Zoom option and the instruction will become remote if conditions require it. If you would like to have your child complete the 1st Holy Communion classes, please call 914-337-0207 (1003) or e-mail [VLCMAIL@VLC-NY.ORG](mailto:VLCMAIL@VLC-NY.ORG) to receive a registration form. The Chapel School students and community youth are welcome, too!

**Prayer Line:** We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Glenn Accocella, John Accocella, Andis Akerfelds, Joan Bevers, Bob Capabiancho, Lydia Chao, Frank Clark, Lillian DiMucci, Annabella Hansen, Robert Hartwell Sr., David & Linda James, Deacon Joe Lamoureux, Frank Lyman, Jayne Marra, Joan Paliotta, Johnathan Richards, Jonathan Roberts, Linda Roth, Steve Smith, Ben Tashoff, Rod Tomlinson, Vincent Valentino, Richard White, Milana Zirolnik

**Bereavement Prayer Line:** We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Henry Joerz**, Concordia Class of 1987 and longtime friend of the community, who passed away on February 2, 2021

**Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School**  
**172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708**  
**914-337-0207 + [www.VLC-NY.ORG](http://www.VLC-NY.ORG)**